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Part 30

THE  
**CRITICAL REVIEW.**

**JANUARY, 1803.**

ART. I.—'ΟΜΗΡΟΥ ΙΛΙΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΟΔΥΣΣΕΙΑ· ΕΞ ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗ-  
ΡΙΟΥ ΤΥΠΟΓΡΑΦΙΚΟΥ ΑΚΑΔΗΜΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΕΝ ΟΞΟΝΙΑ.  
ΕΤΣΙ α.ω.

*Homer's Iliad and Odyssey: from the Clarendon Press, Oxford.*  
4 Vol. 4to. 1800. [*'Lectori'—Mart. 27, 1801.*]

THIS edition of Homer seems to have been superintended by an eye uncommonly accurate in correcting the press, and might have been rendered more useful by a short appendix pointing out to common readers those sources, from which certain alterations, inserted in the context, have been derived. The text of the Iliad has been restored in many places by the decisive readings of the Venetian manuscript published by Villoison, and of the valuable transcript belonging to New college, which Joshua Barnes, in his preface, has, unaccountably, ascribed to the library of Queen's college, Oxford.

To the Odyssey is subjoined a collation of the Harleian manuscript (5674);—*'istius codicis collatio, quam humanissime in se suscepit Vir eruditissimus RICARDUS PORSON, et summa cum diligentia peragendam esse statuit, digna esse visa est quæ per se integra in medium proferretur. Ad calcem itaque ODYSSEÆ subjicimus, non nudam quidem illam, ex indigesta mole ut fit plerumque conflata, et nulla in trutina castigata, sed in eruditorum usum, pro ista Græcæ criticæ scientia, et subacto judicio, quo VIR EGREGIUS unus omnium maxime eminet, nitide atque affabre elaboratam.'*

How much nearer to its original would the Iliad have been made to approach by a collation from the same incomparable scholar, of that most excellent manuscript—*'Codex præstantissimus, quem mecum benevole communicavit antiquæ artis reliquiarum spectator elegantissimus, Carolus Townleius.'*—HE would have restored or supplied the Venetian Scholia in innumerable places; have stated with precision the peculiarities

CRIT. REV. Vol. 37. January, 1803.

B

of its paleography, and advanced the boundaries of sound criticism:—*δεινός γὰρ εὖρεϊν καὶ ἀμνηχανῶν ποροῦς.*

The copies on small paper are as unseemly as those intended for presentation are splendid; and the pages of both are, as usual, deformed with barbarous contractions.

The frontispiece of the latter is a stately column of the Corinthian order; but the principles and character of this order being delicacy and beauty, not strength and permanence, the Doric or Grecian column, which from its grandeur and simplicity impresses the beholder with the idea of durability, would have been far more appropriate<sup>1</sup>. *Hermesianax* (v. 28), we own, is seemingly against us:

Αὐτὸς οὗτος αἰδοῖς, ὃν ἐκ Διὸς αἶσα φυλάσσει

Ἠδίστον παντῶν δαίμονα μούσσοπλων.

RUHNKENIUS thinks *κυδίστον* would have been more characteristic of Homer's metre: and though *Hermesianax* is not very nice in his epithets, it must be allowed, that there are many sweet verses in Homer. In the same note RUHNKENIUS recommends *κηδεστάτε* in room of *κυδίστατε*, in Nicander's *Ther.* 3.

Φίλ' Ἐρμησιανᾶξ, πόλεων κηδεστάτε παῶν

which correction BENTLEY had anticipated in his copy of that poet. Wakefield, in a letter to the venerable Jacob Bryant, reads for *ἡδίστον*, *μηκίστον*. Heinrich substitutes *ποιμένα* for *δαίμονα*, and cites Homer's *ποιμένα λαῶν*. *Æschyl. Suppl.* 763 ed. Pors. *Agam.* 659. Wakefield feels no objection to *αἰδονα*. But *δαίμονα*, signifying a superior, to whom inferiors generally conform themselves, is very aptly applied to the father of heroic song.

Again: the column is decorated with three armorial shields. This, we humbly apprehend, is not correctly classical. Athenian Stuart, indeed, suspects that the intermediate plain and projecting parts of three columns found at Delos, might, on solemn occasions, be covered with tapestry; but shields were appended only to monuments of victory. It has been also suggested that the hollows or flutes of columns composing the peristylum were at first designed to hold the spears<sup>2</sup> of those invited to the entertainment; but it would, we think, be more safe to consider them as merely

<sup>1</sup> Firm Doric pillars found the solid base,  
The gay Corinthian holds the higher space,  
And all below is strength, and all above is grace.

DRYDEN.

<sup>2</sup> *Odys.* A. 128. Δουροδοκῆς ἀντοσθεν εὐχόμεν—



ornamental, or as channels intended to preserve the surface of the marble from the bad effects of moisture and rain. The other ornaments are copied from two noble specimens of ancient sculpture: the *κυανεαι οφρυνες*<sup>3</sup> of the Neapolitan bust inspire us with awful feelings; while the milder graces of the Townleian remind us of the stiller parts of his poems, which discover the finest springs of the human heart. The absence, however, of that celebrated bronze, formerly in the collection of Dr. Mead, and now in the British Museum, is deeply to be regretted:

Εμφρονα χαλκος 'ΟΜΗΡΟΝ ΕΔΕΙΚΝΥΕΝ.

Br. An. Gr. t. ii. 468.

The representation of the sun and censers defies all gravity of countenance.

We will now proceed to appreciate the intrinsic merit of this edition.

#### IL. LIB. A.

4. *Αυτους δε ἐλωρια*—very properly adopted from Codd. Vat. Ven. and Eustathius; Il. Σ. 93, might surely have been altered with equal certainty *Πατροκλου δε ἐλωρια*.

79. *Και οἱ [Φοι]*, yet in B. 510. 748, we read *και εἰκοσι* instead of *εἰκοσι*. See PORS. ad Odyss. Φ. 208. RUHNKE-NIUS ad H. in Cer. 274, corrects *μεγεθος TE και ειδος*, quia *και fere semper corripitur ante vocalem*: Mitscherlich rejects this alteration, and cites Il. γ. 392, as sufficient authority for the lection of the manuscript, which Ilgen ad H. in Ven. 82, and Matthæi ad eund. v. 13, think incontrovertible; and, like other adepts in Heyne's school of criticism, Jacobs<sup>4</sup> and Heinrich<sup>5</sup> are of the same opinion. We are not to look for perfection in any one man; but the opinion of RUHNKE-NIUS ought not to be hastily condemned: we read his note with diffidence and respect, but without that conviction which his remarks usually convey: and we have a claim to the candid interpretation of our readers, when we acknowledge that the consideration of his name staggers us not a little. If *ειδος*, which is very probable, were pronounced by Homer with the digamma, TE in v. 274 of this Homeric hymn is unnecessary; and had Ilgen, and his adventurous scholar Godofredus Hermannus<sup>6</sup>, considered the influence of this character when attached to *εἶματα* in the Iliad and Odyssey, they would not

<sup>3</sup> 'The projecting brow, casting a broad and deep shadow over the eye.'

GILPIN.

<sup>4</sup> Exercitat. Crit. t. ii. p. 155.

<sup>5</sup> Observat. p. 55.

<sup>6</sup> De Metris Poët. Gr. et Rom. p. 67. Ilgen. Lectori, p. xxxii.\*

have ranked *Il. Γ. 392*, among the metrical anomalies, or have treated RUHNKENIUS's insertion with so little ceremony. In *Odyss. Θ. 169*, read *ἄλλος μὲν γὰρ εἶδος [Feid.]*: *Odyss. Ζ. 144*, *Δισσοίτ', εἰ δειξείη πόλιν, καὶ εἶματα [Fei.]* δόη is suspected by the Scholia in Harl. manuscript *περιττός δ' στιχος*—*καὶ ἀθηγοκλῆς δὲ ὑπώπτευσεν τὸν στιχόν*. BENTLEY ad *Callim. H. in Cer. 48*, quotes *Il. Ξ. 383*, which should, we suspect, be read *Ἀντὰρ ἐπεὶ ἔσσαντο [Fess.]*<sup>7</sup>.—Hermannus (l. c.) fancies he has added to the number of exceptions by reading, on the authority of cod. Augustan. of Hesiod, *Εργ. καὶ Ἡμ. 222* (205. ed. Br.) *Ἥδ' ἐπεται κλαίουσα πόλιν καὶ ἡθεα λαῶν*. The rare occurrence of *τε καὶ* in the fourth foot of an hexameter verse proves this to be the genuine reading; and *Ἡθεα* will remove the metrical irregularity: *Odyss. Ξ, 411*. *Τὰς μὲν ἀρὰ ἐρξαν κατὰ ἡθεα κοιμηθῆναι*, and in *Il. Ζ. 511*, read *Ῥιμφοῖ ἐγούνα φέρει μετὰ ἡθεα [Fhb.]*<sup>8</sup>; and the writer or writers of the *Theogonia*, 65. *Μελπονταὶ πάντων τε νόμους καὶ ἡθεα [Fhb.]* *Il. Ζ. 478*. *Ὦδε βίην τ' ἀγαθόν, καὶ Ἰλίου*<sup>9</sup> [*Fil.*]<sup>10</sup>—*I. 393*. *Ἦν γὰρ δὴ με σάωσι θεοὶ, καὶ οἰκαδ' [Foiu.]*—Mitscherlich, however, asserts that the instances, which militate against this law, are nearly infinite; and he will probably furnish us with a few more in his promised edition of the hymns of the Homeridae. We can hardly think that even Hermannus would press into his service the following delectable lines; *Il. Α, 509*.—*Ὀφελῶσιν τε οἱ τιμῇ*. MS. C. C. C. Cant. in the text. *Apoll. Rhod. 1, 320*, as read by the Scholiast ad 1, 1174. *Ἐτῇ δ' ἀρ' ἐπὶ προμολῆσιν· οἱ δ' ἀντιοὶ ἡγερέθοντο*; and *πλοκαμοὶ βοτρυοέντες* as produced by the acute Bp. Hurd<sup>11</sup> from *Il, 677*, ed. Br. in order to prove that the diphthong *οἱ* may be short before a consonant. In *Il, 194*, *Ὡς φατ', ἐπὶ νῆσαν δὲ νεοὶ ἐπὶ Αἰσωνίδαο*, Dr. Taylor, in an unguarded moment, conjectured *λογόν*. Beside, some allowance must be made for those syllables which fall under the 'ictus metrici'; *Il. Γ, 40*; the editions have *Αἰθ' ὀφελὲς τ' ἀγόνος τ' ἐμμεναι*, whereas most of the manuscripts, which we have consulted, have *Αἰθ' ὀφελὲς τ' ἐμμεναι ἀγόνος*, which ed. Villois. confirms. *Αἰθ' ὀφελὲς ἀγόνος τ' ἐμμεναι, ᾠ*—*Ibid. I, 402*. *Ἰλίον ἐκτῆσθαι, εὐ ναϊομένον πτολιέθρον*. See also a fragment attributed to Apollonius Rhodius, taken from *Etym. MS. Bibl. Reg.* by RUHNKENIUS, in *Ess. Cr. II, p. 195, v. 5*.

Godofredus Hermannus, impatient of keeping pace with the

<sup>7</sup> DAWES. M. C. p. 61.

<sup>8</sup> Hermannus de emend. Rat. Gr. Gramm.

<sup>9</sup> Schol. Villois. ad l. c. *ἄλλοι, αἰδέ βίην ἀγαθόντε*.

<sup>10</sup> On the Marks of Imitation, p. 183.

<sup>11</sup> Hermann. de Metr. Gr. p. 70.



slow progress of research, thinks himself at liberty to start from the plain road, in hopes of finding some bye-path to truth: he is assiduously engaged in proving that those laws of metre and construction, which have been laid down by real critics, and determined by the voice of classical antiquity, are still in an uncertain and defenceless condition; and he humbly apprehends that it will be his lot thoroughly to investigate the metrical arrangements of the tragic and comic poets<sup>12</sup>. And those who have inspected his writings will readily grant that he is neither sparing of labour nor scrupulous in choice of means to accomplish his purpose. In p. 155—*de metris*—he quotes from Mr. Brunck's *ethic poetry*, p. 198,

ὀγδοὺς ἀνακλήτωρων, ὃ δ' ἐννατὸς χοῆς,

as a trimeter iambic of the comic poet Eubulus: the metre and language of Athens incline us to suspect the evidence of this voucher: for κλήτης is used universally by the Attic writers—it does, or ought, always to occupy the text of Demosthenes. Aristides, indeed, and later sophists, used κλήτης and κλήτωρ indiscriminately; but on this point they are no authority. ἀνακλήτωρ is not Greek;—in a fragment of the same poet, apud Athen. xiv. 640. B. *Εν ταῖς Ἀθηναῖς* ΟΥΚ' ΑΚΛΗΤΗΡΕΣ, βοτρύς, is thus happily restored by the much regretted PIERSON<sup>13</sup>, ΟΥΚΑ, ΚΛΗΤ—How then came ἀνακλήτωρων here? The copies of Athenæus<sup>14</sup>, to whom we are indebted for this fragment, have ὀγδοὺς κλήτορος.—Grotius finding the line in this mangled state, and determined, at any rate, to heal it, recommends ἀνακλήτορος<sup>15</sup>: DAWES's canon is rarely violated with impunity; and Brunck, who had been warned by Toup's perilous experiments, consulted the verse by altering the number of ἀνακλήτορος; and thus secured the second place for his favourite anapæst, preceded by a dactyl: but ἐνατὸς is

<sup>12</sup> 'Accedunt leges quædam tum prosodiæ, tum omnino rationis grammaticæ, quas Dawesius potissimum protulit, magnis abnoxia [obnoxia] dubitationibus. In quibus legibus perpendendis, ac vel confirmandis, vel refutandis, plurimum diligentia et assiduitatis ponatur necesse est. Quod si hoc efficere mihi contigerit, ut horum poetarum metra penitus pervestigaverim, spero fore, ut hæc certe pars doctrinæ grammaticæ ad justæ disciplinæ formam adducatur.'—Orat. adit. pp. v. vi.

<sup>13</sup> Ad Moer. Attic. p. 368.

<sup>14</sup> II, 36. D.

<sup>15</sup> Ad excerpta p. 649. Yet Grotius, strange to tell, has made the α in φυλακτῆς short in Stob. Flor. Tit. xliii. 165. [Cf. Br. Fragm. Soph. p. 674. ed. Svo.] 'Ὅπου γὰρ οἱ φυλακτῆρες ἵστανται τικάν.' 'Ita ob versum posui cum exstaret φυλασσοντες.'—Salmasius preferred πλασαντες. PIERSON Verisim. p. 133, φυσαντες; and about the same time Reiske, as is evident from his letter to Bernard, p. 450, which he however does not mention in his review of that book, by which he justly displeased VALCKENAER, in Acta Erudit. mens. Maii, 1752. p. 279, φυσαντες—a word as peculiar to Sophocles as τικάντας is to Euripides.

always a tribrach in Attic poetry; Grotius, however, completed the verse by doubling the N; and in this contumelious state, lacerated with a typographical error, Godofredus Hermannus appeals to it in an elementary treatise on the Greek and Latin metres! Had Godofredus Hermannus been acquainted with the notes of the elegant and ingenious Florens Christianus in Vesp. Aristoph. <sup>16</sup>, he would (v. 1384) have found this verse as it came from the comic poet's hand—

‘Ο Δ’ ΟΓΔΟΟC κλητήρος, ὁ δ’ ἐνατός χολῆς.

Soph. El. 706. ‘Ο δ’ ΟΓΔΟΟC, λευκιππος, Αἰνείαν γένος’

‘ΕΝΑΤΟC, Ἀθηνῶν τῶν θεοδμητῶν ἀπο.

Other verses equally round and sound as this, Godofredus Hermannus presses on our notice with his usual effrontery: at p. 160, he cites from Aristophanes's *Aves*, 1693, ἀλλὰ γαμικὴν χλανίδα δίδωτω τις δευρο μοι, and triumphantly asks, ‘Ubi quid est, quod in numero hæreas? Tam rotundus hic versus est, tam elegans et cultus, ut magis non possit.’—We have here a specimen of his delicacy of ear for the cadence of Greek iambic verses; he is enraptured with χλανίδα δίδωτω, and would, we have no doubt, adopt it in preference to ἀλλὰ γαμικὴν χλανίδα δότω τις δευρο μοι. The fact is—ἀλλὰ being omitted in the Aldine and the two Juntine editions of the text, without which the verse had not its due complement of feet—δότω was expanded into δίδωτω, or δίδωτω, which he continues after ἀλλὰ had been restored: but the original text, given above, is taken from the Schol. in 1565; and has been pointed out by our incomparable professor, in his account of Brunck's edition of Aristophanes. With what triumph will Godofredus Hermannus rescue from this TRUE CRITIC Eur. Hel. 299. Εἰς ἑυμῶλ’ ἐλθόντες, ἃ φανερά μοι οἷς ἀν ἦν; and how eager will he be to transmit it pure and undiminished to posterity! ‘Tales errores ubique corrigendi, non in exemplum trahendi.’

A. 230. Εἰπῆ is very properly restored to the text; partly, we suppose, on the authority of the Venet. MS. first ed. and the Harl. MS. Scholia.

A. 340. Εἰποτε δ’ αὐτε Χρεῖω ἐμεῖο γένηται—] ought not to have sullied the text of the Grenville Homer. This passage has been restored by a profound scholar—εἶκε ποτ’ αὐτε. The common reading of the editions is defended by Godofredus Hermannus, who in pursuit of irregularities of construction is singularly vigorous. Here we would not have declined to

<sup>16</sup> Casaubon Animadv. in Athen (p. 78) has given a clue to the beginning of the verse. Fl. Christianus died in 1596; Casaubon published his *Athenæus* in 1597; and Rumpius Aristoph. Vesp. with Fl. Chris. notes, 1620.



meet his objections to DAWES's<sup>17</sup> precept, had such a discussion been commensurate with our limits. We will, however, aver that the discovery of those laws demands patience, caution, and humility, aided with the greatest efforts of sagacity: some faint glimpses of BENTLEY's decisions may be traced in the vague conjectures of preceding critics; but it was left for him to demonstrate and to establish them: certain hints, which he had negligently thrown out, urged him to examine and strengthen the basis of others, which he would otherwise have left to the care of future ages. Convinced that his rules were formed by the most just inferences from the surest principles, DAWES desisted too soon from the severe disquisition: he adhered too rigidly to analogy, neglected to make those discriminations which would have done away many seeming difficulties, and failed to crown his deductions with extensive reading and deep consideration.—And all are, we hope, by this time convinced that the canon given, Hec. 347—inculcating a recondite property of tragic iambs—was the result of minute investigation, nice distinction, and painful thought.

To prove that *ει* is used with a subjunctive mood<sup>18</sup>, he alleges Odyss. II. 138: in the admirable collation of the Harl. MS. it is remarked—'138. *ει και* et in marg. γρ. *η* et supra *η* scriptum *αρα*. Si igitur varietas *η* *αρα* fideliter a Clarkio e MS. notata est, hic quoque glossa pro varia lectione invasit. Nam solæ variæ lectiones sunt *η και* et *ει και*.' Il. I. 318, is not to the purpose. If Hermannus be startled at *πολεμικοι*, Schol. in Plat. p. 165, will help him to another reading. In Odyss. E. 221. *Παιησι* is the poetic indicative from *παιημι*, as H. 204.

<sup>17</sup> Misc. Crit. p. 82. 'Sed ea nisi machinis impulsa validioribus, æternum persistet inconcussa.' The emendation—*γανυθ*. Æschyl. P. V. 464—which the late discerning and precise Mr. Tyrwhitt, ap. Burgess (p. 471) deemed unnecessary, is preferred to *γανυθ*, in his 'Conjecturæ in Æschylum, &c.' The Scotch ed. gives the reading of DAWES and the punctuation of Tyrwhitt, l. c.: either reading, indeed, may be right. In nice points of criticism it sometimes happens, that the mind oscillates between two opinions. This noble critic seems not to have satisfied himself about that obscure fragment of Achæus in Athen. xi. 466. [Cf. Burgess, p. 425, et App. ad Toup. Em. in Suid. p. 427. We feel unmingled joy in being enabled to state that his 'Conjecturæ in Æschyl. &c.' have been printed off for some time, and wait only for some letters that passed between Tyrwhitt and Mr. Brunck. Though mindful of VALCKENAER's salutary advice, ad Eur. Ph. 302, we do not think the hints transcribed from the margin of T's copy of Toup's Em. in Suid. sufficiently accurate. In partem tertiam, pr. p. 10. *δωσι* ΠΑΤΕΡΑ Γ'—] ΧΡΥΤΟΥΝ. Ib. p. 277, l. 3. ΠΑΡΕΒΕΚΤΗΚΟΤΟΣ· τ' αλιηριος] in cur. noviss. p. 32. *Ισομοιρος* ΑΡΑΤΕ] ΑΚΡΑΤΕ. Ib. *αμφι γα β.*] *αμφι* CE. p. 79. Απολαυε ζωμου μηφ.—] Απολαυε ΤΟΥ ζωμου· μη delevit Athenæus. Ib. p. 176. Δω- ριας ΕΛΑΟΥΤ] ΑΛΛ' ΟΥΔΕ. These atoms of knowledge may at least suggest vestiges of the ancient readings; they were left by a character fertile in every great and good qualification—"may recorded honours gather round his monument, and thicken over him!"

<sup>18</sup> Observ. Crit. p. 76, which observation he has inserted amongst his Adnot. in Viger. p. 791;—in both places for '*Plutum* 116,' read '*Plutum* 216.'

ἔμμελῆται from ἔμμελῆμαι—<sup>c</sup> ἔμμελῆτο MS. Harl.' The remaining passages from the Iliad have been corrected by the hand of a real critic<sup>19</sup>, who in Il. E. 258, εἰ κ' οὖν—O, 16. εἰ κ' αὐτε. In the Homeric Hymn. in Apoll. 46, the first ed. has εἰ τις σοῖγ'. Ilgen conjectures εἰ τις οἶ—Matthæi εἰ τις χ' οἶ—MS. Reg. Εἰ τις γαῖαν υἱεὶ θελεῖ—quod etiam Barnesius secutus est.' Ruhnken. Ep. Crit. I. p. 9. Il. Δ. 219, produced by Ilgen and Matthæi (l. c.) should be read φῖ [Fῶι] ποτε πατρί. It may be observed ἐν παροδῶι that in Il. A. 83, a Harl. MS. reads εἰ με σῶσσαις, which is a specious variation. Xenoph. Anab. vii. 624. (p. 550, ed. Cantab. 1785.) Οὐκ εἰς μὲν Περὶνθον, εἰ προσήτε τῇ πόλει, Ἀριστάρχος ὑμᾶς ὁ Λακεδαιμόνιος οὐκ εἰς εἰσιέναι, ἀποκλείσας τὰς πύλας. In Ald. ed. 1525. 2 Flor. 1527, εἰ προσίτε. MSS. Eton. Guelf. Περὶνθον προσίτε πόλιν· εἰ is never used with a subjunctive mood: in Xenoph. Cyrop. I. 4, 10, read εἰ τοίνυν μὴ σὺ δεῖ; with the optative mood the conditional εἰ is preceded by ἂν: in Xenoph. Anab. vii. 6. 24. MSS. Eton. Par. retain Νῦν ἂν, εἰ—in this passage εἰ does not imply a future contingent event, but what is supposed actually to have happened; read then εἰ προσήτε τῇ πόλει, 'if ye had arrived before the city.'

[A.]

342. Ολοῖησι is preferable to Barnes's ὀλωῖησι, and is found in the Cod. Ven.; but the common reading, pronounced with the digammon inserted, is probably nearest to the original.

344. Μαχεύονται—Barnes's μαχεοῖατ' ought to have been replaced in the text.

480. Στήσαν τε will not, we believe, be disputed.

608. Πῶησεν ἰδυῖησι is supported by the MS. belonging to Benet coll. Camb. Cod. Venet. Eustath. and Apollon. Lex. in v.: the specimen, however, of BENTLEY's intended edition of Homer, given by the learned Dr. Burgess, PRÆF. ad DAW. M. C. p. xxvii. vss. 546. 548, ought to have suggested the genuine text—ποίησε ἰδυῖησι [Fid.] In Odys. A, 428, read κῆνα ἰδυῖα [Fid.] and H, 92, ετευξε ἰδυῖησι [Fid.] Il. I, 128. ἐργα ἰδυῖας. See Σ, 380. 482<sup>20</sup>.

More alterations, we presume, might have been made without incurring the charge of innovation.

117. Σων was perhaps lengthened into σοον after the poet's time: it would be fruitless to attempt to determine its original form: but we cannot applaud a perpetual fluctuation in the spell-

<sup>19</sup> Dr. BURNEY's Remarks on Milton's Greek Verses, p. 596.

<sup>20</sup> 51. H. Stephanus's ἀφῆς is very prudently rejected; see Etym. M. p. 187, l. 1. Il. O, 444. We may observe, on v. 112, that ἀελα is attributed to Homer by the best MSS. not θελα. See Schol. cod. Harl. ad Od. O, 316. γ, 272. π, 67. C, 356. γ, 141. Ω, 4. Id. xv. 41. Δακρυ' ὄσσα θελας; scripsit per elisionem Theocritus. FORS. ad Eur. Med. 1218. VALCK. ad l. seems to prefer Δακρυ' ὄσσ' αἶ.



ing of this word. See II. N, 773. Odys. K, 268, and Cod. Harl.

171. *Ἡτιμασεν*, from Cod. Ven. et Schol. would have given spirit and elasticity to the line.

298. *Μαχησομαι* | *μαχεσομαι* occurs in the text: *μαχεσσομαι* in the Scholia of the Cod. Ven. Eustath. I, 106, 36. ed. Rom. *Κατα τους παλαιους ἡ Μασσαλιωτικὴ καὶ Σινωπικὴ ἐκδοαὶς τῆς Ἰλιάδος, τὸ μαχησομαι εχει. Ἡρακλεων δὲ—διὰ τοῦ Ε προφερει*, and 304, *μαχεσσοαμενω*, ed. Grenv.; but Γ, 137, *μαχησονται*, and 290, *μαχησομαι*. An uniformity of orthography ought at least, to have been observed.

435. *Προερυσσαν*] Schol. Venet. restores the genuine lection *προερεσσάν*; and in Od. N, 279, the text of the admirable Harl. MS. is made up of both readings: *προερεσσαμεν*, Od. I, 73. I. *προερεσσαμεν*, as N, 279. In O, 496, the Harl. Schol. furnishes the proper word.

555. *Παρειπη*] *παρελθη*. BENTLEY ap. Burg. l. c.

572—578. *Επίηρα*] ought to have been printed *ἐπὶ ἥρα*. See Toup. in Hesych. III, 557. Br. in An. Gr. pp. 112. 200.

599. *Γελως*] and Od. Θ, 326; but in Od. Τ, 346. *Ἀσέστον γελόν*—MS. Harl. *γελω*; and in Τ, 8. *γελωτα καὶ*—MS. Harl. *γελώντε καὶ*: hence *γελος* is probably the language of Homer. II. E, 1416. *Ἰχω* is rightly edited, though MS. Harl. 5693, has *ἰχωρ* (see Wolf. Proleg. p. xxxiii.); but in II. Δ, 27. *ἰδρωθ'* occurs instead of *ἰδρω θ' ὄν*. Schol. Ven.; as, *Ἀπολλω. Ποσειδάων λαγω*. See TOUP. in Suid. V. i. p. 119. Piers. ad Herodian. p. 439. Greg. p. 71. PORS. ad Orest. 584. *Ἀιω τον αἰωνε καὶ ἀποκοπήν Αἰσχυλος εἶπεν*. Gramm. MS. Sangerm. ap. RUHNK.

## B.

Our limits will not permit us to enumerate the readings of the second book, which are numerous and valuable: we cannot, however, help suspecting that 287, *ενθαδ' επιστειχοντες*, from Dionys. Hal. de Art. Rhet. ought not to have supplanted *εἰς στείχ'* on the solitary evidence of MS. Coll. Reg. Cant.

106. The final *Nu* is omitted in the edd. and MS. Cantab. of Thucydides.

409. Athenæus, IV, 177, D. informs us that some critics considered this line as spurious. See also Eustathius, I, p. 247, 11, ed. Rom.; Brunck, in his Suppl. ad Aristoph. Ran. 432, appeals to it as sound; Plut. 452, read, *Θαρρεῖ μόνος γὰρ οὗτος ἁ θεός, οἷδ' ὅτι*.

426. *ὑπείρεχον*. MS. Harl. *ὑπερείχον*. Hesychius *ὑπείρεχον*, and Etym. M. in v.; the last in p. 440, 20. *Σπλαγχνα δ' ἀρ' ἀμπεῖραντες ὑπείρεχον ἡφαιστοῖο*.

439. *Πετεηνων*, as in Od. N, 87; whereas in Od. Π, 218, we find *πετεεινα*—*πετεηνα*, MS. Harl. Hesiod. Epy. 277. *πετεηνοῖς*. Cod. ap. Villos. Epp. Vinar. p. 61. Græv. and Brunck.

525. Εστασαν] Cod. Ven. and two Harl. MSS. read *ιστασαν*, which in Odyss. Θ, 435, occupies a place in the text, and ought to be re-instated in Od. X, 480, from a correction in the celebrated MS. Harl. In Il. Δ, 367, and Od. X, 469, *εστηκε* but Il. Δ, 329, *ειστηκε*. See BENTL. ad Callim. H. in Apoll. 14, and PORS. ad Eur. Ph. 1487.

553. Τωδ' οὐπω τις is wisely adopted from ed. PRINCEPS, and Wassenberg: Why was *επιχθονιος* rejected? Il. Ω, 505.

611. Επισταμενοι πολεμοιο] Ed. PR. *ἐπ. πολεμιζειν*.

730 Soph. Tr. 327. [ed. Br.] calls *την θ' ὑψιπυργον οἰχαλιαν*—ΔΙΗΝΕΜΟΝ on which Schol. Lasc. ΔΙΗΝΕΜΟΝ. *ερημον. ὑψηλην ἣν Ὀμηρος, ηνεμοεῖσαν φησιν*. Now the Sch. could not refer to v. 606, since Enispe was not Iöle's native place; but the Scholiast is supposed by Brunck to allude to this line, and to have followed a copy, which had *ηνεμοεῖσαν*.

## Γ.

35. Etym. M. v. Παρεια. Ιλιάδος Γ, (35), *χωρις του ε' ἰν' ἡ ουδετερον*—*πλευραι, πλευρα*. See also PORS. ad Hec. 820. Or. 217, *παρεια* is in the text of the Cod. Ven.

100. Ατης was a conjectural emendation of Dr. Taylor's, long before the appearance of the Schol. Ven.

140. Προτεροιο, και αστεος.] Dr. Vincent, speaking of the digammon, says, 'The existence of this letter is still preserved in some marbles, and upon a medal of the Asturenians, written FASYY: Goltzius, tab. 17, Bentley<sup>21</sup>.' Gr. Verb. Anal. p. 55. From this remark the line might have been easily amended *προτερου και αστεος* [Fαστ.]. If he, 'who, for several years, has presided, with much advantage to the rising generation, and much credit to himself, in one of the first, and most justly famous, of the public seminaries of this kingdom<sup>22</sup>,' would favour the admirers of Homer with 'some short MS. notes of Bentley's,' every scholar would unite with us in again rendering the meed of honest praise to Dr. Vincent, whose ardor of sentiment, and energy of language, displayed in defence of public education, has been felt, and crowned with glory.

Servant of God, well done! Well hast thou fought  
The better fight, who single hast maintain'd  
Against revolted multitudes the cause  
Of TRUTH.

<sup>21</sup> Captain Gunter Brown says nothing 'to the *wau wau* of squalling brats;' and he would have said *less*, if 'to be merry and wise' had been much at his heart.

Dii majorum umbris tenuem et sine pondere terram  
Spirantesque crocos, et in urna perpetuum ver,  
Qui præceptorem sancti voluere parentis  
Esse loco.

<sup>22</sup> Bishop Horsley on the Prosodies, p. 156.



212. Casaub. in Theocr. Lect. c. 9, had emended εφαινον; which was approved by d'Orville, Misc. Obs. I. 121, and ought to have been adopted. In the short Scholia, as published by Barnes, read, Εφαινον φανερα εποιοουν, ελεγον. Υφαινον. επλεκον. In 42. we were glad to see εποψιον. Sch. Lips. ap. Ernest. Αριστοφανης δε εποψιον γραφει, and Etym. M. v. Υποψιος— Ηρωδιανος δε δια του ε γραφει.

301. Μιγειεν.] MS. Harl. 5693, has μιγειεν in the text, and γρ. δαμειεν, with the gl. υποζευχθειεν between the lines; MS. 5600, has δαμειεν in the text, which is confirmed by the Harl. Schol. 5727, and Etym. M. v. Δαμειεν, who quotes αλλοι δ' αλλοισι δαμειεν. Ed. PRINCEPS, αλοχοι δ' αλλοισι δαμειεν which is far more forcible and dignified.

359 Schol. Harl. MS. has αντικρυς, which deserves recording. See Il. E, 130. Hesiod, Εργ. 523, (ed. Br.) H. in Cer. 317.

357. Οξριμον.] In Greece, as in other countries, orthography was at first simple; afterwards, satiated with repeated attempts at improvement, writers by a corrective process recurred to the simplicity of their ancestors: so οξριμος might, after Homer's time, become ομξριμος; which the tragic poets, out of grateful veneration for their great model, might discard for the earlier mode of spelling. We do not assert that the ancients were strictly uniform; but this form. we apprehend, prevailed much more than the other. Ομξριμος, however, according to Hermannus (de rat. emend. Gr. Gramm. p. 21), was used by the poets, οξριμος by the prose writers; and to his references may be added H. Steph. Thes. Gr. I. 794. RUHNK. Ep. Crit. I. 77. ed. 2. Br. in Ar. Eq. 1178. Orest. Eur. 1455, ed. PORS.

Απλακημα and αμπλακημα αναπλακτης and αναμπλακτης, have undergone the same changes. We consulted Carolus Gottlob Augustus Erfurdt's ed. of Soph. Tr. (Lips. 1802,) v. 120, and were not surprised that 'Ea in re dux mihi fuit et auctor consilii Hermannus, quem virum egregium summa pietate prosequimur, quotquot disciplina ejus ac familiaritate fructuosissima, studiorum pariter atque animorum haud vulgari consensione juncti lætabamur.

It may not perhaps be useless to give the variations of most of the editions:

120. Αιεν αμπλακτητον αιδα (MS. Harl.) Ald. Fl. 1522. 1528. 1534. 1544. 1547. Turneb. 1555. 4. 12. 1568. (Camerarius in Comment αναμπλακτητον) 1585. 1603. 1669. 1708. 1722. (Wess. Obs. p. 163.) 1745. 1747. 1758. 1781. ΑΜΠΛΑΚΙΟΝ Schol. Lasc. 1518.

Απλακτητον Hesychius in v. Heath. Br. 1785. 1786. 1788. 1791. 1795. 1802<sup>23</sup>.

<sup>23</sup> Sahl's Sophocles, and Billerbeck's Trachinix, have not been consulted.

Ἀναπλακῆτον Musgr. in notis, and Hermann. de em. rat. Gr. Gramm. p. 20. By reading ἀναπλακῆτον, we consult the metre, sense, and uniformity of spelling. It would, indeed, be difficult to subject this variation to law; the  $\mu$  was added without any apparent metrical necessity.

411 read πορσΑνευσα from Cod. Ven. Sch. Harl. 5727. Hesychius, H. in Cer. 156. Etym. M. p. 683, 47. Θυγατερ' ἰφθιμην Ἀδμητα<sup>24</sup> πορσαινέσκον. Ἀπόλλωνιος (iv. 897.) See I. 802, 909. II. 248, 719. 1051. III. 340. 1124. 1129. 840 Br. IV. 549. 711. 897. 967. 1107. 1119.

## Δ.

41. Εγφέγασι.] Hesychius.

171. Πολυδίψιον ] 'ΠΟΛΥΨΙΨΙΟΝ-ΑΡΓΟΣ, much injured Argos,' says Upton on Shakesp. p. 44. Πολυλιψιον—*multum desideratum*—is proposed by Toup. in Hesych. III, 326; but Hesychius fortifies the lection of all the editions in v. Διψιον Ἀργος. Ἡλιοδωρος μὲν, τὸ ἀνδρὸν Ἀριστάρχος δὲ, τὸ πολυποθῆτον. Cf. Etym. M. in v. Πολυδίψιον. Æschyl. Choëph. 183. Soph. Ant. 246. 429. Schol. in Apoll. Rhod. IV, 14. Eur. Alcest. 560. ed. Musgr.

242. Ἰομῶροι] ought to be ἰομῶροι, 'violæ fato destinati:' the 'long-concealed sense' of this word was shrewdly detected by the late Dr. Askew. Il. Ψ, 850. ἰοέντα σιδήρον, 'violacei-coloris ferrum,' (blue-gleaming). DAWES, M. C. p. 185. This admirable work was published at Camb. 1745, by the united aid of Mr. Hubbard and Dr. Mason: and the second volume of Hesychius appeared under the auspices of RUHNKENIUS in 1766. See also Abresch. ad Hesych. v. ἰοφῶσα; where the Lexicographer and the Schol. on Apoll. Rhod. emend and illustrate each other.

269. Εχευαν. MSS. Harl. Il. Γ, 270. Εχευον. ED. PRINC. Od. A, 146. Cod. Harl.

282. Πεφρικυῖαι] Ἀριστάρχος βεβριθυῖαι. Sch. MS. Bibl. Reg. ap. RUHNK. PRÆF. ad Hesych. p. ix.

452. Οἰριμον ὕδωρ.] 'Sæpe quidem, οἰριμος Ἀρης, ab Homero usurpatum, frequentissime etiam οἰριμον ἐγγός, sed οἰριμον ὕδωρ nullibi. Quid si itaque legeretur οἰζριον (sive οἰζριμον) ὕδωρ? In locis huic parallelis Διὸς οἰζρος adhibuit, Il. ii. 91. A, 493. Adde N, 139.' VALCK. Misc. Obs. VIII. II. 177.

480. Νῖν] Μῖν is the Homeric word.

WE are strenuous advocates for the use of the Greek accentual marks; but, from the expedition requisite in a monthly publication, we feel unwilling to commit those σηματα λυγρὰ to the mercy of compositors.

(To be continued.)



**ART. II.**—*An Account of a Geographical and Astronomical Expedition to the Northern Parts of Russia, for ascertaining the Degrees of Latitude and Longitude of the Mouth of the River Kovima; of the whole Coast of the Tshutski, to East Cape; and of the Islands in the Eastern Ocean, stretching to the American Coast. Performed, by Command of her Imperial Majesty Catharine the Second, Empress of all the Russias, by Commadore Joseph Billings, in the Years 1785, &c. to 1794. The whole narrated from the Original Papers, by Martin Sauer, Secretary to the Expedition. 4to. 2l. 2s. Boards. Cadell and Davies. 1802.*

**GEOGRAPHICAL** discoveries, within the last century, have been so numerous and splendid, that navigators must regret, with Alexander, the want of other worlds to conquer; of unknown seas to explore; of new continents, whose outline can be traced, or whose interior can be examined. The triumphs of nautical discoveries, though more extensive, and infinitely more noble, than those of the Macedonian, are still limited; and to correct a latitude, or to divide what appeared to former voyagers the prominent coast of a continent, into a mere cluster of islands, must now, for the most part, content the boldest investigator. These are not, however, without their interest or importance; and, having completed the outline, as well as having endeavoured to correct it, the restless enterprising spirit is next turned to examine, more accurately, the internal parts of countries, which had been neglected as sufficiently known, or despised as altogether useless. The narrative before us, though not without utility and interest, is circumscribed to this humbler line of geographical investigation.

From the accounts of Mr. Coxe, and from the very able introduction to the third voyage of captain Cook, it should seem that the Russians never doubled Tshutski (more properly Shelatskoi) noss; and it appears now that the mouth of the Kovima was incorrectly laid down; yet, from comparing our author's imperfect outlines, traced by a black lead pencil, with major Shalauoff's chart, captain Billings's astronomical observations, and the sketches of the natives, Mr. Arrowsmith has been able to lay down the celebrated northern promontory with sufficient accuracy, as well as the coast between it and the mouth of the Kovima. From this comparison, it has apparently been placed in the best Russian charts too far north, the mouth of the river being little more than  $69^{\circ}$  N.

The instructions were seemingly drawn up by the empress Catharine; and she must, consequently, rank with the late unfortunate Louis as a royal geographer. The two objects of the expedition were to determine the longitude and latitude of the mouth of the Kovima, together with the situation of the great

promontory of the Tshutski, as far as East Cape, and to form an exact chart of the islands in the Eastern Ocean, extending to the coast of America. This second object was not, however, attempted; and Mr. Arrowsmith's chart, deduced from the united accounts, is the only supplement.

Our author hastens over the earlier part of his journey, in which the first circumstance that appears particularly interesting is the passage of the Uralian Chain, and the description of Irkutsk, the capital of Siberia.

'The officers here, both military and civil, are very numerous; the former, in consequence of this being the seat of government in the vicinity of the Chinese and Mongal territories; the latter, on account of the numerous courts of justice, and the necessary distributions to be made for the vast extent of its jurisdiction. I shall rate these in two classes; for rank is only a secondary recommendation here: the gentleman, who behaves himself with propriety, though poor, is completely independent, and every house is open to him; while the worthless are only attended to in the execution of their duty, and then with great reserve.

'In this town there are neither inns nor coffee-houses; but no stranger, who behaves himself with common civility, will ever be at a loss for a home. I had very good quarters allotted me by government, in which I had only resided a few days, when brigadier-general Troepolsky invited me to accept of apartments and attendants in his house: his lady repeated the invitation, which I begged they would allow me to refuse. They then sent me every necessary to my lodging, which really compelled me to accept their first offer, to save them greater trouble. Their mansion was ever after my home; and their friendship will always remain indelibly impressed on my mind. All kinds of food are cheap, as are spirituous liquors and home-brewed beer. Wines are dear. Many luxuries are imported from China; and silks, cottons, linens, furs, nay English cloths, are moderate.

'Throughout the whole of Siberia, hospitality prevails in the extreme. A traveler is perfectly secure on the road, and certain of a hearty welcome wherever he puts up, let the cot be ever so homely. But whether this hospitality will continue when they arrive at a certain state of refinement, to which they seem advancing with incredible haste, remains for future times to discover; as also whether the expansion of ideas may not lead to the extension of territory, and other formal establishments.' P. 17.

Irkutsk lies in the neighbourhood of Lake Baykal, on the lower part of that vast chain, from which almost all the rivers of Asia descend. On this side, however, there are no rivers but what fall into the Frozen Ocean, or the sea of Kamtschatka. Our travelers—for the '*Command*' consisted of a numerous body—fall down the Lena to Yakutsk, whence they proceed to Ochotsk, which affords a good picture of a Russian town, at a distance from the seat of government. In a low misty situation, vege-



tables are scanty, and dry fish the food of cattle, particularly in the spring, when the dogs become so ravenous, from want of nutriment, as to devour each other, and the first horses that arrive. Cold, damp, and uncomfortable, a want of feeling, or an excess of duty and obedience, would alone reconcile the wretched inhabitants to their situation. A chain of mountains intervene between Irkutsk and Ochotsk, which the author describes in his journey, though they are not marked in the map, which is confined to the objects of the expedition, as we have explained it. These mountains, however, we must mention, as from them the Ochotsk descends; and, as the journey from the Gulf of Ingiga to the Kovima River was not safe, the author was obliged to repass them, in a northerly direction, till he fell in with the Indigirka River from the same chain. This he was compelled to cross in order to reach the Kovima. The mountains just mentioned run nearly from west to east; but, in a somewhat higher latitude, their direction is northerly, and even a little to the west. The account of the Tungoose is new and interesting: they in general adore dæmons, and their priests are sorcerers.

‘ The Tungoose wander over an amazing extent of ground, from the mouth of the Amour to the Baikal Lake, the rivers Angara, or Tungooska, Lena, Aldan, Yudoma, Mayo, Ud, the sea coast of Ochotsk, the Amicon, Kovima, Indigirka, Alasey, the coast of the Icy Sea, and all the mountains of these parts; constantly on the look-out for animals of the chase. They seldom reside more than six days in one place, but remove their tents, though it be to the small distance of 20 fathom, and this only in the fishing season, and during the time of collecting berries in such solitary places as are far distant from the habitation of Cossacs. Here they leave their supplies of dried fish and berries, in large boxes built on trees or poles, for the benefit of themselves and their tribes in traveling during the winter. Berries they dry by mixing them with the undigested food (*lichen*) out of the stomach of the rein-deer, making their cakes, which they spread on the bark of trees, and dry upon their huts in the sun or wind.

‘ They seem callous to the effects of heat or cold; their tents are covered with shamoy, or the inner bark of the birch, which they render as pliable as leather, by rolling it up, and keeping it for some time in the steam of boiling water and smoke.

‘ Their winter dress is the skin of the deer, or wild sheep, dressed with the hair on; a breast-piece of the same, which ties round the neck, and reaches down to the waist, widening towards the bottom, and neatly ornamented with embroidery and beads; pantaloons of the same materials, which also furnish them with short stockings, and boots of the legs of rein-deer with the hair outward; a fur cap and gloves. Their summer dress only differs in being simple leather without the hair.’ P. 47.

‘ They commonly hunt with the bow and arrow, but some have rifle-barreled guns. They do not like to bury their dead, but place

16 *Billings's Expedition to the Northern Parts of Russia.*

the body, dressed in its best apparel, in a strong box, and suspend it between two trees. The implements of the chase belonging to the deceased are buried under the box. Except a sorcerer is very near, no ceremony is observed; but in his presence they kill a deer, offer a part to the demons, and eat the rest.

'They allow polygamy; but the first wife is the chief, and is attended by the rest. The ceremony of marriage is a simple purchase of a girl from her father; from 20 to 100 deer are given, or the bridegroom works a stated time for the benefit of the bride's father. The unmarried are not remarkable for chastity. A man will give his daughter for a time to any friend or traveler that he takes a liking to; if he has no daughter, he will give his servant, but not his wives.

'They are rather below the middle size, and extremely active; have lively smiling countenances, with small eyes; and both sexes are great lovers of brandy.

'I asked my Tungoose, why they had not settled places of residence? They answered, that they knew no greater curse than to live in one place, like a Russian, or Yakut, where filth accumulates, and fills the habitation with stench and disease.' p. 49.

After once more crossing the mountains, they arrive at Upper Kovima: but the wretched inhabitants of this district had only a scanty winter store of fishes, with no prospect of adding to it; since it was now the end of September, and the contractor's provision had not reached them. It arrived, however, gradually, and they were fortunate enough to catch some fishes by means of wears. From the twenty-second to the thirtieth of November,\* the spirit thermometer was from  $30\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  to  $41\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$  of Réaumur\*.

'At  $37^{\circ}$  it was almost impossible to fell timber, which was as hard as the hatchet, except it was perfectly dry; and in the greatest severity the hatchets, on striking the wood, broke like glass. Indeed it was impossible to work in the open air, which compelled us to make many holidays much against our inclination.

'The effects of the cold are wonderful. Upon coming out of a warm room, it is absolutely necessary to breathe through a handkerchief; and you find yourself immediately surrounded by an atmosphere, arising from breath, and the heat of the body, which incloses you in a mist, and consists of small nodules of hoar ice. Breathing causes a noise like the tearing of coarse paper, or the breaking of thin twigs, and the expired breath is immediately condensed in the fine substance mentioned above. The northern lights are constant and very brilliant; they seem close to you, and you may sometimes hear them shoot along; they assume an amazing diversity of shapes; and the Tungoose say, that they are spirits at variance fighting in the air.' p. 57.

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\* Though these degrees are said to be Réaumur's, we suspect, from the effects, that they must be Fahrenheit's only. If the former, the cold must be indeed intense.—Rev.



The cold sometimes sunk to  $43^{\circ}$ ; and in this situation, with a scarcity of alimentary food, it is not surprising that the scurvy should appear among them. They made some excursions among the neighbouring tribes, but found them poor and ignorant. In February and March, some snow-larks and ducks made their appearance, to the great relief of the scorbutic, who soon recovered on being supplied with recent animal food. Such was a winter in the Yasashnoi, near its confluence with the Upper Kovima, in latitude only of  $65^{\circ} 28' 25''$ , and longitude  $153^{\circ} 24' E$ . The independent Cossac of this district, we shall stay to describe.

‘The lordly Cossac is only to be roused from his indolence by an order from his superior; and then he curses his fate, which has placed him under the control of others. These last of mankind, unworthy of the name, these hardly animated lumps of clay, exert the most savage barbarity over their wives, children, animals, and the poor neighbouring tribes whose miserable lot it is to pay tribute to them, or to be under the least obligations, either by drinking a glass of brandy, taking a leaf or two of tobacco, or in any other way. They receive annual supplies of articles that are necessary, ornamental, or luxurious, from the traders at Yakutsk, to supply the different tribes with; rendering, in return, furs and mammoth's tusks. Their chief endeavour with these wanderers is, to get them indebted for any article that they may stand in need of, or to procure the receipt of a trifling present (which in honour they must return with one more valuable); but if they once get in debt, then they are persecuted to the utmost, and are frequently necessitated to leave a man to work, or a woman, perhaps a daughter, as security for the payment.

‘I have here sketched a faithful picture from the very men who are sent hither to explain to the natives the benefits arising from the Christian faith, and to set an example of loyalty and obedience.’  
P. 66.

The river Kovima flows from the south-west to the north-east. The mountains we mentioned form its more abrupt eastern banks, and unite, at no great distance, from the gulf of Ingiga with the chain, which constitutes the peninsula of Kamtschatka.

With the ships built during the winter on the Upper Kovima, the voyagers sailed down the river, and proceeded in the gulf of Kovima, very near the 170th degree of east longitude. Ice then appeared, and captain Billings determined to return; but so little of the spirit of enterprise, or persevering resolution in the attainment of an object, we have seldom seen in any narrative. We could scarcely suppose captain Billings to have been the companion of captain Cook.

‘To conclude the detail of this short excursion, I shall subjoin the following remarks: The coast of the Icy Sea is moderately high,  
CRIT. REV. Vol. 37. *January*, 1803. C

formed by projecting promontories and shallow bays, exposed to every wind except the south. The mountains are covered in different places with snow; which melting, produces small torrents rushing into the sea. They are composed of granite, quartz, and a hard black stone; and produce moss; a kind of vetch, the root of which is edible; creeping willow; and birch, not exceeding ten inches in height. The shores are covered with drift wood nearly to Barannoi Kamen, but no farther east. Along the shore are numerous remains of huts, and places where fires have been, which, in all probability, have been made and left by different hunters.

‘The quadrupeds that we saw were rein-deer, pretty numerous; bears, but none white; wolves, foxes, stone fox, wild sheep, and the whistling marmot. The birds were, gulls of several sorts, ravens, hawks, black-headed buntings, snow-larks, a few partridges, geese, ducks, and divers.

‘The productions of the sea are very few. We frequently hauled the seine, but only once caught the seld (herring) and muk-soon (a small species of salmon). We saw several belluga, seals, and one whale, but no traces of shell-fish of any kind. The water was fresh to a considerable distance; the ice we frequently tried, but found it brackish, with neither ebb nor flow. The currents were very irregular, seldom setting any one way longer than the wind blew, at the unsettled rates of half a mile, a mile, and three miles and a half, per hour.

‘The atmosphere was cold and chilly, the greatest heat that we experienced being while at anchor close in with the land in Wolves’ Bay on the 15th July, when we had several claps of thunder. We had a gentle south-east breeze, and calms; and while the wind blew, the thermometer rose to  $14^{\circ}$  and  $16^{\circ}$  above the freezing point of Réaumur. During the intervening calms, it sunk to  $6^{\circ}$ ,  $7^{\circ}$ , and  $8^{\circ}$ . The coldest day was the 12th July, the thermometer being then  $2^{\circ}$  below the freezing point. It frequently indicated  $1^{\circ}$  above 0 at the time when our rigging was incrustated with ice.

‘The fogs here are very remarkable, continually hovering above the ice at no great height. At a distance they appear like islands in a haze; sometimes like vast columns of smoke. Once, in particular, we thought that the Tshutski had made signal-fires for us; but on a nearer approach we discovered our mistake.

‘I observed the horizon to be most clear in the coldest weather, and am inclined to think that this navigation ought to be undertaken about the first of August. The more success is to be expected, from the testimony of the hunters and others who visit these parts, “that the ice never breaks up until St. Elias’ day, the 20th July, Old Style (or the 31st July, New Style”); and I think it necessary to remark here, that my dates are all Old Style, according to the custom of Russia.

‘The estuary of the river Kovima at Shalauoff’s winter buildings, by exact reckonings of bearings, course, and time, from places where observations were taken in the Icy Sea, and from Neizshni Ostrog, forwards and backwards, I fix in latitude  $69^{\circ} 16'$ , longitude  $166^{\circ} 10'$ ; variation of the compass  $17^{\circ} 30'$  east.

‘The following is the result of my remarks and inquiries during



my stay at Neizshni Kovima :—I observed swallows swarming together under the eaves of the church, chirping very much, particularly on the 2d August ; and on the third there was not one to be found, nor had any body seen them depart. I was informed, that they made their appearance about Tzarivoi day (21st May), and departed on the (days of Spass) 2d and 6th August, never staying beyond the latter date ; the red-breast remains a day or two longer than the white. The snow-bunting, the first bird that appears, is seen about the middle of March feeding on the seeds of grass on the sandy shores of the river, and about the roots of bushes where the sun first melts the snow : different flights pursue each other in their migration for about a month ; eagles follow close upon them. Swans, geese, and ducks, arrive toward the end of April, and continue about the neighbouring lakes and rivers till the beginning of September. The river is frozen over about the 20th of September, and opens about the 24th May, when it deluges the low country. The water does not retreat within its bounds till the end of June.

‘ On the 25th November the sun sets until the 1st January, when it again appears above the horizon ; and this is the time of the severest cold.’ P. 78.

The minuter details, which intervened between the later events and the voyage, in order to ascertain the situation of the islands interposed between the Asiatic and American continents, need not detain us. Our author interrogated Lachoff, respecting his discovery of three islands to the north of Swatoi Noss, but could gain little satisfactory information. The government thought his discovery interesting, and meriting some further inquiry. The vast unwieldy extent of the Russian empire requires, however, no accession to its dominions on the north ; and the discovery could only be useful from the number of mammoths'-teeth found there, which seem to have been considerable. The islands are now neglected.

The account of the Yakuti is not uninteresting, but incapable of abridgement. It is, however, worth remarking, that, as usual, they migrated from the east, pressed on by a more powerful and warlike nation, till they found refuge on the banks of those rivers which fall into the Frozen Ocean. Their religion is a Manichæan system, not without traces of a purer source. The customs, ceremonies, employments, &c. of the Yakuti, furnish an entertaining narrative ; but it admits of no application respecting their origin or connexion. The population of these tribes seems to diminish.

The voyagers winter in Kamtschatka, which they find a much more comfortable residence than the mouth of the Kovima. They built a vessel, to accompany them, from the wood in the centre of the peninsula, near the source of the river Kamtschatka. The author's account, however, is not very clear, as it seems partly to refer to the mouth of the Kamtschatka

in a much higher latitude. The former vessel, built at Ochotsk, was lost, seemingly by the obstinacy and temerity of captain Billings, and the ignorance of the pilot; while even the flag sloop, 'the Glory of Russia,' narrowly escaped the breakers. The direction of the 'Command' is not afterwards pointed out with sufficient clearness; but they seem to have followed a south-western course through the Aleutian chain to the island of Kodiak, at the entrance of Cook's inlet. In this course, we meet with few remarks peculiarly interesting. They stay for some time at Oonalashka, and at Kodiak, in Prince William's Sound; but add little to our knowledge of the manners and customs of the inhabitants. The Russian establishments are chiefly subservient to the fur-trade, and scarcely merit our notice. It seems probable, from this account, that the projecting Cape of Alyaska, which separates Prince William's Sound from Bristol Bay, is nearly divided opposite to Kodiak. It contains, in the middle, a lake, which, with a short carrying-place, connects the two bays. The description of the sea-lion, and ursine seal, we shall transcribe.

'The sea-lion, called by the Russians sivootsha, is the strongest and largest of the seal kind; covered with dark coloured coarse hair, which is very thick and long about the neck and shoulders; the hind part is tapering, with smooth short hair. The largest is about eight feet long. They copulate and pass every night on some rock by themselves, one male and a number of females, driving away, or killing, every other species of animal that may approach them. The males have frequently very desperate engagements, and the conqueror is immediately joined by all the females. They are extremely bold, and will attack men if disturbed on the rocks. They have a small white spot on the temples, nearly as large as a half-crown piece; and this is the only place about them vulnerable by arrows, which hardly pierce the skin in other parts; but, if poisoned, they penetrate deep enough to infuse the baneful quality. The meat of these animals is cut in thin shreds, and dried by the hunters, who esteem it good eating. I thought it bad and fishy; but the head, which is equal in size to that of a large ox, I thought very good, if well stewed, and eaten with sarana and other edible roots. The second species is the kotic, or ursine-seal: the largest are about six feet long, covered with beautiful silvery grey hairs, of the colour of the Siberian squirrel, having a soft downy under fur, resembling brown silk. The young kotic are extremely playful in the water; the head very nearly resembles that of a lamb with long ears; and they live upon rock-weeds. The flesh of the young ones is well tasted; but the colour is blue, and unpleasant to the eye. These swarm together in great herds on the low islands, and are killed by being struck just above the nose with a short bludgeon. When they find themselves in danger, they attempt to bite. When very young, the fur is of a beautiful short glossy black, which



changes to silvery when they grow up; and when they become very old, they are almost white.' P. 179.

The breed of the sea-otter is almost extinct in the western islands, and perhaps will soon be lost even on the American coast. In compensation, however, strata of coals are extensively scattered in many parts of Asia, and some are even within reach of exportation.

The transactions in Prince William's Sound are not of great importance; but, from some circumstances, it seems clearly ascertained that Cape St. Elias, of Bering, is not the southern point of Montague's, but of Kay's Island.

'This native farther told us, that at the north extremity of Kay's Island, there was a bay sheltered from the wind; that the entrance at low water was as deep as his double paddle (which is about seven foot); and that there are runs of fresh water into it, but no great rivers. A very considerable river, however, falls into the sea a day's journey north of our anchorage, up which the natives travel 14 days to the residence of a different nation, the people of which supply them with knives, copper kettles, and instruments, and make their canoes. That these people trade with others farther inland, and obtain from them knives and other articles; but that his nation never go farther than 14 days' journey. That the articles of their trade are, the skins of sea-lions, for boats; oil of sea animals; small shells; and muscle-shells for points to arrows; and that these were a very powerful and warlike people.

'Another observation of his, I think it very necessary to mention: it was a positive assertion, that there were straits and islands as far as we could see; and that to the south-east there was "a great salt water," with many entrances to it. I repeatedly asked the question, and could not be mistaken in the answer; and I would most willingly have stayed on the coast alone, to explore these unknown parts from tribe to tribe, until I had lost myself, or found my way to Europe through some of these cranny passages. I am aware, that I was thought a madman for it; but this madness, this enthusiastic confidence, would, I am certain, have assisted my success; nor would I have left unexplored a river of which we had such confirmed accounts, without good reason for it; for I never met with any men that would refuse assistance to one individual, who, without the means of being their enemy, was at all times in their power. Over and above all this, I declare, that I have complete confidence in a Supreme Being, who governs every thought, and inspires means of expression to secure the devotee in exploring his wisdom.' P. 195.

We insert this passage, as a characteristic trait of the author, and as some proof of the accuracy of the information he seems to have received. Captain Vancouver has shown that 'the great salt water,' and the many entrances to it, are the indentations of the sea in this latitude, and the sound to the east of Quadra and Vancouver's Island.

After finishing the second ship, and again wintering in Kamtschatka, captain Billings proceeds to the west ; and, though one object of the expedition was the survey of the islands between Asia and America, he passes them cursorily, and determines not to approach the American continent again ; abandoning every expectation of signalling himself and country by discoveries which the liberality of the government had, at an immense expense, put within his reach. In the entire course, from west to east, through the whole chain of these islands, we scarcely meet with a single circumstance meriting notice ; for we cannot depend on the longitudes ; scarcely, we fear, on the latitudes. It is an apparently accidental remark, that, from the northern point of Oonalashka, an island at no great distance from the projecting point of Alayaska, formerly noticed, to Gore's Island, the sea shoals from eighty to forty fathoms, and from the Aleutan to Clerk's Island, to twenty-four fathoms, which, compared with other observations, seems to show that the whole sea, north of the Aleutan islands, has been gained from the land. We mention this as an additional argument, though we think it by no means decisive, for those who derive the population of America from Asia. On the north-west of Gore's Island is a smaller one, considered by captain Cook as a part of the former. An account of a whale, which affords an alimentary sustenance, we shall transcribe.

‘ One species of whale is frequently cast on shore both on these islands (the Aleutan) and on the coast of Kamtschatka, which the natives never eat, but only use the fat to burn. They know no difference in its appearance ; but observe that neither gulls, nor any bird of prey, or fox, will eat of it. They say, that the Russian hunters have used it for food ; that its fat turns in the stomach to an oil of so subtle a nature, as to pass through all the pores of the body, while the fleshy parts are emitted in an undigested state ; and that if those who have eaten it have formerly had wounds or ulcers, although these have been cured for years, they break out afresh. Several of the hunters told me, that they had eaten of this whale, and that the account which the natives gave of the subtileness of the fat, and the undigested state in which the more substantial parts passed through them, was true ; and that some of their companions, who had been cured of the venereal distemper, became again violently affected with that dismal disease, merely from this food. The same property, however, is attributed to the flesh of whales in general.’ P. 224.

In the track towards Clerk's Island, the sea still shoaled till, on its south, it was little more than six fathoms. All around, the islands appeared numerous ; but the navigators were more intent on their safety than urged by curiosity ; and they with difficulty avoided being embayed in this island, or rather cluster



of islands. They escaped, however, to the continent of America, and landed there; but made few interesting observations. The inhabitants of this part were of the Tschutski race. They reached thence the Bay of St. Lawrence on the Asiatic coast.

The residence of the navigators among the Tschutski was short, and afforded little of novelty or interest. The inhabitants of this very remote quarter of the old world are Asiatics, and their manners almost exclusively Tartarian: the resident tribes are considered as of inferior race, and the wanderers only truly independent. Captain Billings, with a proportion of the 'Command,' proceeds in his object by land; the others, with our author, return and winter at Oonalashka. The account of their winter's arrangement, or the means employed by M. Sauer for preventing the scurvy, are of little importance; and the descriptions of the animals and fishes are too general and indiscriminate to be valuable. What may appear more interesting, we shall transcribe.

'The morning of the 1st of April 1792 being clear, I roved about the south side of the mountains to enjoy the sun, which we had not seen ten times since our arrival on this island. During my walk, I saw, at the entrance to one of the mouseholes, a considerable quantity of edible roots: these consisted of makarshine, sarana, and another root unknown to me, about the size of a coffee-bean (but few of them): the quantity might be about ten pounds weight, thus brought into the sun to dry by the mice, more provident than the human part of the inhabitants of this island. I also noticed, for the first time, that the sweet plant of Kamtshatka, the kutagernik, or wild angelica, the broad-leaved sorrel, and kiprey, were breaking through the earth. The other productions of the island are, the ground willow, already described (but not a single tree of any denomination whatever, nor does any of the islands west of Kadiak produce a tree of any kind: this I can positively assert): two berry-bearing bushes, the tshernika and golubnika, about eighteen inches high, on the southern side of the mountains, and in such places as are sheltered from the north winds; the mountains also produce the shikshu, or siecha, and wortle-berry. The valleys yield raspberries, white, large, and of a watery taste. The edible roots are, sarana, makarshina, and the root of the lupin; this plant bears a more beautiful flower than in Europe: the kutagernik is sometimes used for food, mixed with fish spawn, I believe on account of its bitter flavour. Wild mustard was plenty about the old habitations. The grass is coarse and rushy; I am inclined, however, to think its quality succulent; for it appears to me of the same kind as grows about the harbour of St. Peter and St. Paul in Kamtshatka, of which the cattle are very fond, and it fattens them extremely. The soil is not deep, but black and fine, unmixed with clay or loam. It was with great difficulty that we procured, near the source of a rivulet, a sufficient quantity of clay to use as cement to our ovens, built with the stones collected on the sea-shore. Here are no rivers;

but several rivulets, or small rills of water, run into the sea. There are two extinguished volcanoes on this island; and near one of these there was formerly a hot spring, but it is now buried under stones fallen from the mountain, which produces abundance of native sulphur. Earthquakes are frequent, and, by the account of the natives, sometimes very violent.

The sea produces, beside the fish already mentioned, whales, grampusses (*kosatki*), porpoises (*swinki*), the sea lion (*sivutsha*), and the ursine seal (*kotic*); the two latter used to pass this island in great herds late in the autumn; but they have not appeared the two last years, which I attribute to the havoc made among them by the hunters on the islands discovered by Pribuiloff to the north of Oonashka. Sea otters are almost forgotten here; but they sometimes appear on the rocky islands off Atcha.

I shall now return to our society. We had but little to do during the present year. Our foraging parties met with very ill success, although they were of material assistance with the little firewood that they obtained. They could not shoot any game, which I ascribe to their being too numerous and noisy: for I was successful when I went out alone, but found the wild fowl exceedingly shy. We experienced a constant succession of mists and fogs; sometimes during the night the stars appeared; we had frequent gales of wind, and very strong, and encountered one hurricane, which, probably owing to the surrounding lofty mountains, acted like a whirlwind upon our vessels, carried the *Black Eagle* on shore, and, catching the *Slava Russia*, all her cables parted like packthread at one instant; but, notwithstanding she was at the mercy of the gale, and in great motion in the eddy of the wind, its opposite currents only drove her a short distance along the basin, and back again. We expected her every moment on the rocks; the violence of the hurricane, however, abated, and we again got her to the old moorings, without having received any damage. Several of our men were laid up with the scurvy towards the end of the year, and we buried one young man, whose death was occasioned by this disorder; he had resided on shore from the time of our arrival.  
P. 266.

During the winter's residence, however, the scurvy increased considerably, and greatly lessened their little crew, debilitating those who survived. They left the island, after a melancholy residence of eight months and sixteen days, having buried seventeen of their stoutest hands, and been cheered by the sight of the sun only eighteen times, without a single clear day. The customs and religion of the Aleutans are described shortly, and are not peculiarly interesting. The mode of hunting is also of little real importance. Our author returned to Kamtschatka; and we cannot give a more conspicuous view of the miserable state of that colony, than by the following commercial adventure.

Notwithstanding we were as silent as possible on board, with a



view of surprising the inhabitants when the weather became a little clear, we had not lain long before we heard a boat rowing towards the vessel; and were shortly after amazed at seeing an English pin-nace coming along-side, with captain Charles William Barkley in it, whose vessel, the *Alcyon*, from Bengal, was at anchor in the inner harbour on a trading voyage. His cargo consisted of articles that were invaluable in this part of the world; particularly in a port so eligibly situated for encouraging commercial undertakings; namely, iron in bars, anchors, cables, and cordage, with various kinds of iron-mongery wares, and a considerable stock of rum. Notwithstanding this, the commander of the port having neither authority nor resolution to secure a purchase for account of government; and the traders of this peninsula (who style themselves merchants) being merely a set of roving pedlars, without either capital or credit (and, what is still worse, without principles to secure either); captain Barkley was necessitated to take these articles back again, although they were offered at less than one third of the charges of transporting such commodities from the manufactories in Siberia.

‘A man who has resolution to strike out a new line of commerce, or rather to seek a new source of trade, in parts of the world so little known as are these regions, at the same time unacquainted with the language and with the wants of the inhabitants, is rather threatened with loss, than flattered with prospects of profit, in the first attempt; and nothing short of enthusiastic hope of future advantages can compensate for the degree of anxiety that he must suffer. Such a man, most certainly, merits all the encouragement that the government can give him, which is sure to be eventually benefited by his success. Considering these circumstances, and that the two vessels employed in our expedition were in the greatest need of entire new rigging, anchors, &c. the present favourable opportunity of serving captain Barkley by clearing his ship was a secondary consideration, compared to the advantages which government would have derived from so valuable an acquisition of the most necessary articles that the port could possess. This I represented to the governor of the port, and to the commanding officers of our expedition; but both equally feared to act without positive orders.’ P. 278.

We left captain Billings attempting to pursue the objects of the expedition by land; but he was as unfortunate in this, as timid and unenterprising in his coasting attempts. The *Tschutski* plundered, insulted, and abused him and his party, scarcely permitting them to take a single memorandum, even when their fingers were not benumbed with frost, nor a single observation or measure. They approached the sea-coast only at the bays of *Melshikma* and *Klutshenie*; the latter of which is in the neighbourhood of *Cape North*. A dreadful earthquake occurred during our author's temporary residence in *Kamtschatka*, which is well described, but offers no new phenomenon.

An account of the peninsula of *Kamtschatka* follows, which is peculiarly clear and distinct. The point, as may be sup-

posted, is mountainous; and an undivided ridge proceeds through nearly three degrees of latitude. The mountain here divaricates, and forms the highest ground of the peninsula. From this ground, the rivers fall into the bay of St. Peter and St. Paul, on the eastern side, and into the sea of Ochotsk on the west. Here also arises the river of Kamtschatka, which, running along the high table land of the peninsula in a sinuous course, to a considerable extent, falls into the Eastern Sea at the cape, to which it gives its own name.

‘ From this place ’ (the divarication of the mountains) ‘ the face of the country assumes the appearance of extreme fertility. The valley widens, and the space between the mountains east and west is at Virchni Kamtshatka 40 miles. The soil is deep and rich, composed of black earth, mixed with fine black ashes from the burning mountains, and fine iron sand, which adheres to a magnet, and forges well with bar-iron, but used alone is very brittle.

‘ The productions of nature are, a small kind of wild black cherry (tsheromka), in great abundance; the wood of which, being particularly hard, is used by the Kamtshadals for their guiding sticks to the sledges: the thickest trees that I have seen are nine or ten inches in circumference. Firs, common pine and larch trees of extraordinary size, with birch, poplar, asp, and mountain-ash, clothe the mountains to their summit. The underwoods are, currant, dog-rose, hawthorn, alder, and bushes producing berries.

‘ The climate is very different from that of the southern and northern parts of the peninsula, the valley being completely sheltered from the sea-breezes that chill the air in other parts, and prove a great check to vegetation, which commences here in the month of March. The scenery is beautiful beyond description, the river meandering through the midst of the valley, from 50 to 250 yards wide, and from 8 to 15 feet deep, and being replete with trout and every species of salmon in the season. This valley is 180 miles in length, frequently opening prospects of the Tolbatshinsk, a lofty double-headed mountain, constantly emitting an immense column of black smoke; while the second volcano, Klutshesfskoi, towering to an incredible height, illuminates the clouds with its blaze, and affords a view awfully grand.’ p. 290.

The western coast is uniformly low and sandy; and the sea shallow, the depth decreasing a fathom in a mile. The eastern chain of rocks projects into the sea, rendering the shore bold and rugged. The inlets are apparently numerous, but generally blocked up by reefs of rocks. Immense masses of stone are scattered at vast distances; and the depth of the sea varies—probably from this cause—often suddenly from thirty to ninety fathoms.

The bay of Avatska is peculiarly convenient and advantageous; the fishes numerous, particularly, in their season, herrings and salmon. Four species of salmon arrive in succes-



sion. The following circumstance, relating to herrings, is new :

‘ On the 7th June, in the inner harbour of St. Peter and St. Paul, I observed, at the flood tide, a considerable number of herrings swimming round in circles of about a fathom in diameter. Seeing them continue in this particular manner, I approached very near them, and remarked, in each of the circles, one fish very close to the ground, upon the weeds, and apparently without motion. I could not account for this peculiarity in their swimming, but thought that the weeds about the herring in the middle became of a very lively yellow colour. When the tide ebbed, and left these places dry, all the weeds, stones, sticks, &c. were covered with spawn about half an inch thick, which the dogs, gulls, crows, and magpies, were devouring with great avidity. These shoals of herrings, which are pursued by seals, cod, &c. come in spring and in the autumn; there is, however, a considerable difference in their size; and I believe the spring glut are the largest fish. The natives and other inhabitants ensnare a great quantity in autumn for their dogs.’  
P. 299.

The description of one of the most singular hot springs—another Geyser, in a climate equally inclement—deserves notice. The situation is on the western coast, near the extremity of the peninsula.

‘ Opalski, or Osernoi, situated nearly midway between the Lopatka and Bolshoietsk, about 15 miles south of the Kamtshadal village of Yavinsk, surrounded by mountains, and at no great distance from the volcano of Opalsk. They occupy a valley of considerable extent, and are scattered to the distance of six miles, some parts of which produce detached birch trees, the sweet plant, &c.; but in general the soil is barren, composed of different coloured marl, and large stones which appear to have been scattered by eruptions of some volcano. The largest hot spring is at the foot of one of the mountains; and we heard the noise that it made at the distance of near a mile before we came to it. It is about six fathom in circumference, boiling up to a considerable height; the middle appears like a cauldron; and a piece of beef placed in it was very well boiled in a short time: all round, it bubbles up between large stones; it then divides into two streams, which descend over stones, and unite at the bottom with a small rivulet formed by the other springs to the north: they flow a little way to the south, then turn westward into the lake Osernoi. About the border of these springs, and the rivulet which they form, we observed petrified, or rather calcarised, foliage of the sweet plant, birch leaves, sticks, &c. of a beautiful whiteness; but so extremely delicate in their texture, that we could not preserve any, even in cotton; for they mouldered to dust. The Kamtshadals suppose this to be the habitation of some demon, and make a trifling offering to appease his wrath; without which, they say, he sends very dangerous storms. Our naturalist and Mr. Varonin, who ascended to these springs in 1790, expe-

rienced a whirlwind, which tore their tent, and scattered its contents about, many of which were never found again. Ashes were scattered upon the snow about four inches deep, resembling coarse gunpowder, probably from the volcano Alaid (a solitary mountain in the sea, situated about 20 miles south-west of the Lopatka), which burns violently at this time (February 1793). It has at various intervals emitted smoke ever since 1790. The oldest inhabitant does not remember its having done so before, although tradition informs them of its violent eruptions.' p. 303.

The population consists of 1687 Russians, and about 1000 natives. They have adopted the Russian dresses, and the Greek religion; but they retain their language, and the *memory* of their former superstitions, which were, as usual, gross and barbarous, connected with dæmons, while their priests are sorcerers. They call themselves by a name denoting 'original inhabitants.'

The author's return to Petersburg, and the further account of captain Billings's investigation of the coast by land, afford nothing peculiarly interesting. We remarked, however—in our review of Pérouse's Voyage—the peculiar features of the inhabitants of Segallien, which approached almost to European. We find similar features in the only drawing inserted of a Tschutski woman. Let naturalists account for this singular coincidence. We have been detained too long by facts to indulge in speculations. The chief value of the appendix consists in the comparative vocabularies, and the instructions at length.

Thus ended an expedition, began with views the most extensive and laudable, conducted by pusillanimity and meanness, with their natural consequences. The object of the inquiry—to the naturalist, the sailor, and the merchant—was of immense importance:—the exploring new countries, with their varied productions; the discovery of harbours and islands, in a supposed unbroken coast, and new sources of the most valuable productions of the animal kingdom. When we compare the present voyage with captain Vancouver's, it sinks into a boyish expedition with a cock-boat: when we consider the respective comparative expenses, the loss of lives, and the distress of the discoverers, the English navigators seem to have engaged in a pleasurable party, with every luxury at their command. The consequence then is obvious; and it will greatly raise the character of our country and its sailors, when we can circumnavigate the globe, and afterwards make discoveries, with comparative ease and comfort, on the coasts of the Russian empire, which the Russians themselves undertake with great labour and difficulty, and, after all, fail to accomplish. We ought to add, that the author has done all that could be expected from him. His narrative is clear and judicious. He seems never



to have neglected opportunities of information, and to have communicated with fidelity what he attained with danger and difficulty. His geographical details are peculiarly clear and accurate; and we must notice, with particular commendation, his description of the course of the rivers. The map we have already mentioned, as the work of Mr. Arrowsmith; and we need not afterwards speak of its accuracy. We regret only that it is not more full: the sheet was sufficiently extensive. The plates are numerous, apparently authentic, and well executed.

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ART. III.—*General Zoölogy, or Systematic Natural History. By George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With Plates from the first Authorities, and most select Specimens, engraved principally by Mr. Heath. Vol. III. in Two Parts. 8vo. Large Paper 3l. 1s. 6d. Small Paper 2l. 12s. 6d. Boards. Kearsley. 1802.*

WE sincerely congratulate the public on the reception of this new volume of a work, vast and comprehensive in its plan; curious, authentic, and instructive, in its progress; and which promises to give a complete and masterly view of the subject in its several branches. We are highly gratified with this continuation, which brings numerous objects before us, hitherto unknown or overlooked, even by many systematic naturalists of character; while the author's unwearied diligence leads us to hope that the same indefatigable zeal will pervade the remaining tribes of animated nature. The tribes of fishes, insects, and shells, will employ his utmost attention for a series of years. So far as Dr. Shaw has proceeded, we can truly affirm, that a system of zoölogy so comprehensive, complete, and instructive, has not appeared in any language. Yet we find some causes of complaint, and shall at once mention them. With great abilities and extensive information, Dr. Shaw, we think, hesitates too often: his own opinion, on many disputed points, is cautiously held back; and he fears to decide between contending naturalists, when his decision is anxiously looked for, and would be received with respect. The plates too, though strong and impressive, are finished, in our judgement, with less elegance than those in the two former volumes. The peculiar beauty of Roesel's plates may, however, have rendered us fastidious in this branch of natural history.

The present volume contains the amphibia. These, as the title indicates, are adapted to live on land or in water, but not exclusively in each. They are either furnished with feet, or want these organs; and consequently are divided into natural families, rather than genera: tortoises, frogs, and lizards, with

feet; and serpents *without* feet. In consequence of their remaining long under water, it is not necessary that a second circulation should take place through the lungs; and the hearts of the amphibia are said to be formed of a single ventricle only. This has been lately denied: but the dispute is verbal only; for, where two ventricles have been found, the communication between them appears to be free and immediate. Our author's general account of the nature of amphibious animals cannot be curtailed without mutilation, or abridged without injury.

‘ The lungs of the amphibia differ widely in their appearance from those of other animals; consisting, in general, of a pair of large bladders or membranaceous receptacles, parted, in the different species, into more or fewer cancelli or subdivisions, among which are beautifully distributed the pulmonary blood-vessels, which bear but a small proportion to the vesicular part through which they ramify; whereas, in the lungs of the mammalia, so great is the proportion of the blood-vessels, and so very small are the vesicles, or air-cells, that the lungs have a fleshy rather than a membranaceous appearance. In the amphibia, therefore, the vesicular system may be said greatly to prevail over the vascular; and in the mammalia or warm-blooded animals, the vascular system to prevail over the vesicular.

‘ Many of the amphibia are possessed of a high degree of reproductive power, and will be furnished with new feet, tails, &c. when those parts have by any accident been destroyed. Many are highly beautiful in their colours, as well as elegant in their forms; while others, on the contrary, are, in the common acceptation of the words, extremely deformed, and of unpleasing colours. Their bodies are sometimes defended by a hard, horny shield or covering; sometimes rather by a coriaceous integument; sometimes by scales, and sometimes have no particular defence or coating; the skin being merely marked by soft, pustular warts or protuberances, more or less visible in the different species.

‘ The bones of the amphibia, except in a very few instances, are of a more cartilaginous nature than in either the mammalia or birds: many species are destitute of ribs, while others have those parts very numerous: some are furnished with formidable teeth; others are toothless: some are fierce and predacious; others inoffensive. Few, except among the serpent tribe, are of a poisonous nature; the general prejudice against them having arisen rather on account of their form, than from any real poisonous quality; but among the serpents we meet with some species possessed of the most dreadful poison, as well as with the power of applying it with fatal force to the animals which they attack. The number of poisonous serpents is, however, not so great as was formerly imagined; perhaps not more than a sixth part of the whole number of known species being of that character.

‘ Among no animals do we meet with beings of a more singular form than in the amphibia; some of which present appearances so unusual, so grotesque, and so formidable, that even the imagination of the poet or painter can hardly be supposed to exceed the realities of nature.



'The amphibia in general are extremely tenacious of life, and will continue to move, and exert many of their animal functions, even when deprived of the head itself. The experiments which have been occasionally made on these subjects, can hardly be recited without horror. The natural life of some of the amphibia, more particularly of the tortoise tribe, is extremely long; and even to the smaller tribes of frogs and lizards a considerable space seems allotted. The same is also highly probable with respect to the serpent-tribe.

'By far the major part of the amphibia are oviparous, some excluding eggs covered with a hard or calcareous shell, like those of birds; others such as are covered only with a tough skin, resembling parchment; and in many they are perfectly gelatinous, without any kind of external covering, as in the spawn of the common frog. Some few are viviparous; the eggs first hatching internally, and the young being afterwards excluded in their perfect form, as in the viper, &c. &c. In cold and temperate climates, most of the amphibia pass the winter in a torpid state; and that sometimes in a degree of cold which would seem but ill calculated for the preservation of animal life. The common large water-newt in particular is said to have been occasionally found completely imbedded in large masses of ice, in which it must have remained inclosed for a very considerable period; and yet, on the dissolution of the ice, has been restored to life.' P. 2.

We have called the genera of the amphibia 'natural families,' not from a desire of innovation, but from much reflexion on the division and arrangement of the species. Where animals or vegetables resemble each other in a considerable degree, distinction is peculiarly difficult, for this very simple and obvious reason—that nature proceeds by progressive shades: systems mark only the breaks and interruptions of these shades. When the breaks are filled up, system is at a loss. In the first family—the testudo—distinction is rendered more difficult by the varying size and colour of the shell in different situations, but particularly at different stages of their growth; yet, from the shape, colour, and pattern of the shell, the specific distinctions must be taken; since, from the observation of Schoepffs and Cetti, both in the marine and terrestrial species, the claws, or projecting extremities of the feet, furnish no constant specific distinction.

Much essential information is conveyed in the arrangement of the species of tortoise; and the definitions are consequently corrected.

The first species is the common tortoise—the testudo Græca of Linnæus—of which the amended definition is adopted from Schoepffs. The manners and mode of life of this tortoise are well described. The testudo marginata follows. This is the T. graja of Hermen, and the animal classed by the count de la Cépède as the former species. If we take the specific marks from the shells—and, after a careful consideration of the sub-

ject, there seems sufficient reason to do so—this should certainly be a new species. The *T. geometrica* L. is next described, with a suitable alteration of the definition, for the reasons just mentioned; and the radiated tortoise—the great checquered tortoise of Grew—is for similar reasons separated from the geometrical. The Indian tortoise occurs in Gmelin's edition of Linnæus; but the *T. rugosa* is now first described from a shell in the Leverian Museum, with the following definition:—  
 ‘Tortoise with a black wrinkled shell, mottled and variegated with yellow, with the middle dorsal pieces subpanduriform (somewhat fiddle-shaped).’ The *T. Europæa*, *carinata*, *clausa*, *sulcata*, *palustris*? (*concentrica* S.) *Picta*? *pusilla*, *scabra*? *denticulata*, *Pensylvanica*, *Caspica*, *feroæ*, *scorpoides*? (*fimbriata* Shawe), and *serpentina*, are from Linnæus, with suitable alterations and improvements in the definitions; since the specific distinctions are, as we have said, taken from the shells. Ten other species are intermixed with these, from the observations of the most distinguished naturalists, or from Dr. Shaw himself. The spotted, the areolated, and the tabular tortoise, are taken from Seba, described by Schoepffs; the *T. elegans*, from Seba; the *T. serrata*, from the Leverian Museum; the *T. galeata*, *scripta*, and *tricarinata*, from Schoepffs; the *longicollis*, a new species, from Australasia; the *granulata*, from La Cépède.

The turtles are the marine tortoises, and differ from the others by their webbed feet. Each, as we have said, can live for a time in water; and they are related as waders and swimmers among birds. The coriaceous turtle, the green esculent species, *T. mydas*, the loggerhead *T. caretta*, the *T. imbricata*, or hawksbill, are described in the System of Nature: the green-shelled and the rhinoceros-turtle may be found in La Cépède. The trunk-turtle is mentioned only by Catesby.

The frogs are a very extensive family; and they may be divided into three sections—

—‘viz. 1. Frogs, commonly so called, or *rana*, with light active bodies, and which leap when disturbed. 2. Slender-limbed frogs, *hyla*, *calamita*, or *rana arborea*; viz. such as have light bodies, very slender limbs, and toes terminating in flat, circularly expanded tips, enabling the animals to adhere at pleasure to the surface even of the smoothest bodies. Several of this division generally reside on trees, adhering by their toes to the lower surfaces of the leaves and branches. 3. Toads, *bufones*, or such as have large heavy bodies, short thick limbs, and which rather crawl than leap when disturbed.

‘It may be observed, that in the works of authors this division of the genus into three sections (which is but of late date) is not very accurately conducted; and indeed some species may be considered as of a doubtful cast, or ranking with almost equal propriety in either distribution.’ p. 96.



It is generally in the month of March that the frog deposits its ova or spawn, consisting of a large heap or clustered mass of gelatinous transparent eggs, in each of which is imbedded the embryo, or tadpole, in the form of a round, black globule. The spawn commonly lies more than a month, or sometimes five weeks, before the larvæ or tadpoles are hatched from it, and during this period each egg gradually enlarges in size, and a few days before the time of exclusion, the young animals may be perceived to move about in the surrounding gluten. When first hatched, they feed on the remains of the gluten in which they were imbedded, and in the space of a few days, if narrowly examined, they will be found to be furnished, on each side the head, with a pair of ramified branchiæ or temporary organs, which again disappear after a certain space. These tadpoles are so perfectly unlike the animals in their complete state, that a person in conversant in natural history would hardly suppose them to bear any relationship to the frog; since, on a general view, they appear to consist merely of head and tail; the former large, black, and roundish; the latter slender, and bordered with a very broad transparent finny margin. Their motions are extremely lively, and they are often seen in such vast numbers as to blacken the whole water with their legions. They live on the leaves of duckweed and other small water-plants, as well as on various kinds of animalcules, &c. and when arrived at a larger size, they may even be heard to gnaw the edges of the leaves on which they feed; their mouths being furnished with extremely minute teeth or denticulations. The tadpole is also furnished with a small kind of tubular sphincter or sucker beneath the lower jaw, by the help of which it hangs at pleasure to the under surface of aquatic plants, &c. From this part it also occasionally hangs, when very young, by a thread of gluten, which it seems to manage in the same manner as some of the smaller slugs have been observed to practise. Its interior organs differ, if closely inspected, from those of the future frog, in many respects; the intestines in particular are always coiled into a flat spiral, in the manner of a cable in miniature.

Indeed the anatomy of these animals exhibits so many singularities, that a volume might be filled with their history; but the nature of a work like the present forbids a detail of more than what is necessary for a clear general idea of the animal in its several states. When the tadpoles have arrived at the age of about five or six weeks, the hind legs make their appearance, gradually increasing in length and size; and, in about a fortnight afterwards, or sometimes later, are succeeded by the fore legs, which are indeed formed beneath the skin much sooner, and are occasionally protruded and again retracted by the animal through a small foramen on each side of the breast, and are not completely stretched forth till the time just mentioned. The animal now bears a kind of ambiguous appearance, partaking of the form of a frog and a lizard. The tail at this period begins to decrease; at first very gradually, and at length so rapidly as to become quite obliterated in the space of a day or two afterwards. The animal now ventures upon land, and is seen wandering about the brinks of its parent waters, and sometimes in such multitudes as to cover a space of many yards in extent. This is the phenomenon

which has so frequently embarrassed the minds not only of the vulgar, but even of some superior characters in the philosophic world; who, unable to account for the legions of these animals with which the ground is occasionally covered in certain spots, at the close of summer, have been led into the popular belief of their having descended from the clouds in showers.

'As soon as the frog has thus assumed its perfect form, it feeds no longer on vegetables, but on animal food; supporting itself on small snails, worms, &c. and particularly on insects. For the readier obtaining its prey, the structure of its tongue is extremely well calculated; being so situated that the root is attached to the fore rather than the hind part of the mouth; and, when at rest, lies backwards, as if the animal were swallowing the tip. By this means the creature is enabled to throw it out to some distance from the mouth, which is done with great celerity, and the bifid and glutinous extremity secures the prey, which is swallowed with an instantaneous motion, so quick that the eye can scarcely follow it.' p. 98.

This description is so very clear and comprehensive, that we could not, with propriety, overlook it; and the plates very strikingly illustrate the whole of the anatomy. In this genus, we need not follow the Linnæan species, but shall only point out those which Dr. Shaw has added to the list. We may, however, remark, that our author does not think the bull-frog of Catesby to be the *rana ocellata* of Linnæus; but supposes the real *R. ocellata* of the Swedish naturalist to be the same with the large Virginian frog of Catesby, the *R. pentadactyla* of Linnæus. These species are confounded also by La Cépède. The *rana ovalis*, the *cyanophlyetis*, and the *spinipes* of Schneider, follow. The blue frog is found in Australasia; and the Leverian frog, a new species, is thus defined: '*R. fusco-cœrulea, subtus albida, supra linea utrinque alba alteraque abrupta, pedibus posterioribus palmatis.*' The *R. bombina* of Linnæus is called *R. ignea* by Dr. Shaw, and more strictly defined. The *R. salsa* is a new species, denominated from its being taken in the salt-marshes of Germany, and described from the work of a German naturalist. The remarks on the tadpole of the *rana paradoxa* are too ingenious to be overlooked.

'The tadpole of this frog, from its very large size, the strong and muscular appearance of the tail, and the ambiguous aspect which it exhibits in the latter part of its progress toward its complete or ultimate form, has long continued to constitute, as it were, the paradox of European naturalists; who, however strong and well-grounded their suspicions might be relative to its real nature, and the mistake of most describers, were yet obliged, in some measure, to acquiesce in the general testimony of those who had seen it in its native waters, and who declared it to be at length transmuted, not into a frog, but a fish! and it was even added by some, that it afterwards reverted to its tadpole form again!! That it is really no other than a frog in its larva or tadpole state, will be evident to every one who considers its



structure; and more especially, if it be collated with the tadpole even of some European frogs; for instance, that of the *rana alliacea*, which the reader will find represented in its natural size on a plate accompanying the description of that species. Like our European tadpoles, this animal, according to the more or less advanced state in which it is found, is furnished either with all the four legs, or with only the two hinder ones: it also sometimes happens that in the largest sized of these tadpoles, exceeding perhaps the length of six or eight inches, the hind legs alone appear; while in those of far smaller size both the fore and hind legs are equally conspicuous. Specimens of these curious animals occur both in the British and Leverian Museums.

‘ It will readily appear that the larva of this frog is larger in proportion to the complete animal than in any other species hitherto discovered. It may also be not improper to observe, that perhaps all the specimens of these very large tadpoles occurring in museums, may not be those of the *rana paradoxa* in particular, but of some other American, African, or Asiatic frogs, as the *R. ocellata*, *marina*, &c. &c.

‘ Dr. Gmelin, in his edition of the *Systema Naturæ*, seems to suppose that the fleshy part of the tail in this larva still remains after the animal has acquired its complete form; but this is by no means the case; no vestige of that part being visible in the perfect frog.’  
P. 121.

The hylæ are frogs with rather slender bodies, long limbs, and the tips of the toes flat, orbicular, and dilated. The first species is the *R. zebra*; *R. maxima* of the later Linnæan editions, of which the *R. boans* is a variety. The *rana Virginiana* altera of Seba is said to be another; and the *R. squamigera* of Walbaum seems to have owed its supposed existence, according to Schneider, to a part of the skin of a snake uniting to a frog kept in the same jar of spirits. The *R. leucophyllata* is described by Schneider and M. Beyreis, in the Berlin Transactions. The *R. quadrilineata*, *castanea*, and *fasciata*, are from the work of the former naturalist. The account of the tree-frog is short but interesting; and the large tree-frog is separated from it, forming another species, under the name of the merian frog, from the circumstance of having its hinder feet webbed. The orange-frog is from Seba; and the *tinging* (better perhaps *tinged*) frog, from La Cépède. The white frog is the *hyla lactea* of Laurenti; and some other doubtful species are added from Schneider.

Toads are the next object; and the horror which their appearance excites is not supported by any real injury which they inflict. Some of our author's remarks we shall transcribe.

‘ From the experiments of Laurenti, it appears that small lizards, on biting the common toad, were for some time disordered and paralytic, and even appeared to be dead, but in some hours were completely recovered.

It is also observed, that dogs, on seizing a toad, and carrying it for some little time in their mouth, will appear to be affected with a very slight swelling of the lips, accompanied by an increased evacuation of saliva; the mere effect of the slightly acrimonious fluid which the toad on irritation exsudes from its skin, and which seems, in this country at least, to produce no dangerous symptoms in such animals as happen to taste or swallow it. The limpid fluid also, which this animal suddenly discharges when disturbed, is a mere watery liquor, perfectly free from any acrimonious or noxious qualities, and appearing to be no other than the contents of a peculiar reservoir, common to this tribe, destined for some purpose in the economy of the animals which does not yet appear to be clearly understood. The common toad may therefore be pronounced innoxious, or perfectly free from any poisonous properties, at least with respect to any of the larger animals; and the innumerable tales recited by the older writers, of its supposed venom, appear to be either gross exaggerations, or else to have related to the effects of some other species mistaken for the common toad; it being certain that some of this genus exsude from their skin a highly acrimonious fluid.

The toad is, however, looked upon with great aversion by the major part of mankind, and it must be confessed, that its appearance is not captivating; yet the eyes are remarkably beautiful: being surrounded by a reddish gold-coloured iris, the pupil, when in a state of contraction, appearing transverse.

It might seem unpardonable to conclude the history of this animal without mentioning the very extraordinary circumstance of its having been occasionally discovered enclosed, or imbedded, without any visible outlet, or even any passage for air, in the substance of wood, and even in that of stone or blocks of marble. For my own part, I have no hesitation in avowing a very high degree of scepticism as to these supposed facts, and in expressing my suspicions that proper attention, in such cases, was not paid to the real situation of the animal. That a toad may have occasionally latibulized in some part of a tree, and have been in some degree overtaken or enclosed by the growth of the wood, so as to be obliged to continue in that situation, without being able to effect its escape, may perhaps be granted: but it would probably continue to live so long only as there remained a passage for air, and for the ingress of insects, &c. on which it might occasionally feed; but that it should be completely blocked up in any kind of stone or marble, without either food or air, appears entirely incredible, and the general run of such accounts must be received with a great many grains of allowance for the natural love of the marvellous, the surprise excited by the sudden appearance of the animal in an unsuspected place, and the consequent neglect of minute attention at the moment, to the surrounding parts of the spot where it was discovered.' P. 143.

We have formerly had occasion to offer some remarks on this latter subject, and shall now shortly repeat them. If we admit all the facts adduced, of which Dr. Shaw expresses a very proper skepticism, they will not amount to a proof of the toad's life. If, for instance, an animal were suddenly inclosed,



and died in a few months from the want of air, little change would be produced in centuries, because the atmosphere is excluded, and the evidence only amounts to the blood appearing fresh. The animal cannot be found alive; for it is necessarily killed by the means which contribute to his discovery\*.

Of the new species, we may mention particularly the *rana alliacea*—the *bufo aquaticus allium redolens* of Roesel—whose tadpole greatly exceeds in size the perfect animal, and is eaten as a fish; the *R. mephitica*—the foetid land-toad of Roesel—whose odour is highly hepatised, of which Dr. Shaw conceives the natter-jack of the British zoölogy to be a variety. The *rana dubia* may be the *R. musica* of Linnæus; but the latter species approaches more nearly the merian frog; and we strongly suspect that this is a variety only. The singular production of the *R. pipa* merits particular attention; and indeed, in this very forbidding family, there are various species which afford subjects of curious speculation.

\* It was for a long time supposed that the ova of this extraordinary animal were produced in the dorsal cells, without having been first excluded in the form of spawn; but later observations have proved that a still more extraordinary process takes place; and that the spawn after exclusion, is received into the open cells of the back, and there concealed till the young have arrived at maturity. This discovery was made by Dr. Fermin, who had an opportunity, during his residence at Surinam, to investigate the natural history of the *pipa* in a more accurate manner than had before been practicable. His account is, that the female *pipa* deposits her eggs or spawn at the brinks of some stagnant water; and that the male collects or amasses the heap of ova, and deposits them with great care on the back of the female, where, after impregnation, they are pressed into the cellules, which are at that period open for their reception, and afterwards close over them; thus retaining them till the period of their second birth, which happens in somewhat less than three months, when they emerge from the back of the parent in their complete state. During the time of their concealment, however, they undergo the usual change of the rest of this genus, being first hatched from the egg in the form of a tadpole; and gradually acquire their complete shape some time before their exclusion. This latter circumstance, which does not appear to have been known to Fermin, is confirmed by the united testimonies of Camper, Blumenbach, and Spallanzani, who have all had an opportunity of inspecting specimens of the animal in a state favourable to the examination of this

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\* We remember hearing, on good authority, the following circumstance respecting the poisonous nature of the toad:—An itinerant mountebank had amused, for some time, a country audience, by eating a variety of disgusting foods; and at last declared, that, if any person could produce a toad, he would eat it. A large one was soon procured, and he devoured it; but his health from that time declined, and he soon died of an atrophy. Other causes might, however, have contributed to that event. REV.

particular. Upon the whole, it appears that there is some analogy in the process of nature with respect to the production of the young, between this animal and the opossum.

'According to Fermin, the pipa is calculated by nature for producing but one brood of young; and, compared with the rest of the genus, it can by no means be considered as a very prolific animal; the number of young produced by the female which he observed, amounted to seventy-five, which were all excluded within the space of five days.' p. 168.

The indistinct toad, *R. systoma*; the *R. acephala*, *semilunata*, and *melanosticta*, are described from Schneider; the *R. lentiginosa*, from Catesby; the *R. arunco*, from Molina.

The name of 'Dragon' appears to realise all that fancy has embodied; and we recall 'chimæras dire,' with St. George's antagonist, and the monsters furnished by the legends of the nursery. It is, in fact, only a harmless lizard, provided with an expansile skin, which supports it for a time in the air.

'It may not be improper here to add, that all the other animals described and figured in the works of some of the older naturalists, under the name of dragons, are merely fictitious beings, either artificially composed of the skins of different animals, or made by warping some particular species of the ray or skate tribe into a dragon-like shape, by expanding and drying the fins in an elevated position, adding the legs of birds, &c. and otherwise disguising the animals. Such also are the monstrous representations (to be found in Gesner and Aldrovandus) of a seven-headed dragon, with gaping mouths, long body, snake-like necks and tail, and feet resembling those of birds. These deceptions appear to have been formerly practised with some success; and misled not only the vulgar, but even men of science. Of this a curious example is said to have occurred towards the close of the seventeenth century, and is thus commemorated by Dr. Grainger, from a note of Dr. Zachary Grey, in his edition of *Hudibras*, vol. i. p. 125.

"Mr. Smith, of Bedford, observes to me, on the word *dragon*, as follows: Mr. Jacob Bobart, botany-professor of Oxford, did, about forty years ago, find a dead rat in the physic garden, which he made to resemble the common picture of dragons, by altering its head and tail, and thrusting in taper sharp sticks, which distended the skin on each side till it mimicked wings. He let it dry as hard as possible. The learned immediately pronounced it a dragon; and one of them sent an accurate description of it to Dr. Maghiabechi, librarian to the grand duke of Tuscany; several fine copies of verses were wrote on so rare a subject; but at last Mr. Bobart owned the cheat; however it was looked upon as a master-piece of art; and, as such, deposited in the Museum, or Anatomy-School, where I saw it some years after."

'The most remarkable instance, in later times, is that of a dragon of the kind above-mentioned, which was in possession of a merchant at Hamburg, and which was considered by its proprietor as of the value of 10,000 florins; but which the penetrating eye of Linnæus,



during his visit to that city, soon discovered to be a mere deception, ingeniously contrived by a dextrous combination of the skins of snakes, teeth of weesels, claws of birds, &c. being, as Linnæus himself expresses it, "*non Naturæ sed artis opus eximium.*" It is said that Linnæus, in consequence of this discovery, was obliged to fly from Hamburgh, in order to avoid the wrath of the enraged proprietor, who determined on a prosecution against him, as having injured the reputation of his property. An exact representation of this curious imposture is given by Seba, who, however, does not, as commonly supposed, describe it as a really existing species, but merely as so reported. It would be scarcely excusable to swell the number of plates in the present work, by an introduction of this figure, merely to elucidate the anecdote: it is therefore entirely omitted.' P. 180.

The genus *lacerta* is very extensive and varied, though strictly natural.

' This numerous genus may be divided into the following sections or sets, viz.

- ' 1. *Crocodiles*, furnished with very strong scales.
- ' 2. *Guanas*, and other lizards, either with serrated or carinated backs and tails.
- ' 3. *Cordyles*, with denticulated, and sometimes spiny scales, either on the body or tail, or both.
- ' 4. *Lizards proper*, smooth, and the greater number furnished with broad square scales or plates on the abdomen.
- ' 5. *Chameleons*, with granulated skin, large head, long missile tongue, and cylindric tail.
- ' 6. *Geckos*, with granulated or tuberculated skin, and lobated feet, with the toes lamellated beneath.
- ' 7. *Scinks*, with smooth, fish-like scales.
- ' 8. *Salamanders*, *newts*, or *efis*, with soft skins, and of which some are water-lizards.
- ' 9. *Snake-Lizards*, with extremely long bodies, very short legs, and minute feet.

' The above divisions neither are, nor can be, perfectly precise; since species may occur which may with almost equal propriety be referred to either of the neighbouring sections; but in general they will be found useful on an investigation of the species.' P. 183.

The account of the crocodile is very entertaining; but so much has been said on this subject, that it is no longer new, though well-compacted and comprehensive. What relates to the animal's power of moving its upper jaw is ably explained. The articulation of the head with the neck, and of the under-jaw with the head, are similar; and when the crocodile opens its vast jaws, it moves the upper jaw by drawing back the head. Dr. Shaw has not remarked, that this animal is now confined chiefly to Upper Egypt, seldom appearing below the cataracts.

With Blumenbach and Linnæus, our author considers the alligator, or American crocodile, as a distinct species. We are

surprised that he has not mentioned the wonderful accounts of Bartram, which we once had occasion to record.

The guanas are next described; and the 'lézard cornu,' first mentioned by La Cépède, is supposed by Dr. Shaw to be a variety of the iguana, the great American guana. The *lacerta Amboinensis*—the Amboina guana—is copied from Schlosser. This, with some other of the guanas, is a nutritious food, and even reckoned among the delicacies. The *lacerta basiliscus* is a harmless animal; its fatal look having no existence but in the poet's imagination.

The *lacerta muricata* is a species from Australasia, described by Mr. White. The bicarinated lizard is confounded by La Cépède, and probably by Linnæus, with the *dracæna*. The *L. varia* of New South Wales is, in our author's opinion, a variety of the *L. monitor*. The *L. Acanthura* is a new species, described from a specimen in the British Museum: it seems nearly allied to the quetzpaleo of Seba, or the azure lizard, which is supposed to represent the *azurea* of Linnæus. The *L. lophura* is described from specimens in the British and J. Hunter's Museum: it much resembles the teguixin, or variegated lizard. The *lacerta bimaculata* L. is supposed to be a variety of the *L. principalis*, and the roquet of La Cépède to be another. The Linnæan species we have omitted to mention, lest the article be too extensive; and we shall continue to follow the same plan.

The cordyles form the next section, but furnish no new species. The lizards proper follow. The scaly lizard of the British Zoölogy is considered as a variety of the green lizard; and the red-headed—*la tête-rouge* of La Cépède—is a new species, not mentioned in the System of Nature. The *L. tæniolata*—the ribbon-lizard of White—is from Australasia. The *L. quinquelineata* is a native of Carolina, noticed by Dr. Garden; and the green Carolina lizard of Catesby is inserted as a variety of *L. bullaris*. Many of the remaining species of this section approach in habit the geckos. The *L. Platura* is from Australasia, described by Mr. White.

The chamæleons furnish no new species; but we shall select from our author what philosophical observation has furnished respecting the supposed change of colour of these lizards.

\* Few animals have been more celebrated by natural historians than the chameleon, which has been sometimes said to possess the power of changing its colour at pleasure, and of assimilating it to that of any particular object or situation. This, however, must be received with very great limitations; the change of colour which the animal exhibits varying in degree, according to circumstances of health, temperature of the weather, and many other causes, and consisting chiefly in a sort of alteration of shades from the natura



greenish or blueish grey of the skin into pale yellowish, with irregular spots or patches of dull red ; but not justifying the application of the Ovidian distich.

“ Non mihi tot cultus numero comprehendere fas est :  
Adjicit ornatus proxima quæque dies.”

‘ No numbers can the varying robe express,  
While each new day presents a different dress.

‘ It is also to be observed, that the natural or usual colour of chameleons varies very considerably ; some being much darker than others, and it has even been seen approaching to a blackish tinge. An occasional change of colour is likewise observable, though in a less striking degree, in some other lizards.’ P. 253.

‘ The general or usual changes of colour in the chameleon, so far as I have been able to ascertain from my own observation of such as have been brought into this country in a living state, are from a blueish ash-colour (its natural tinge) to a green and sometimes yellowish colour, spotted unequally with red. If the animal be exposed to a full sunshine, the unilluminated side generally appears, within the space of some minutes, of a pale yellow, with large roundish patches or spots of red brown. On reversing the situation of the animal the same change takes place in an opposite direction ; the side which was before in the shade now becoming either brown or ash-colour, while the other side becomes yellow and red ; but these changes are subject to much variety both as to intensity of colours and disposition of spots.’ P. 256.

The geckos are augmented by several new species. The tokai of Siam, described by the Jesuit missionaries, is supposed to be a variety of the common gecko. The geckotte of La Cépède is followed by the *L. perfoliata* of Schneider. The latter seems to be inserted in Gmelin's edition of Linnæus, under the trivial name of *repicanda*. Dr. Shaw however suspects them, with great reason, to be the same animal. The Chinese gecko is described from Osbeck ; and the fimbriated—la tête-plate of La Cépède—from Schneider. The French naturalist thinks that this species connects the chamæleons and the water-newts. The *L. tetradactyla*—la sarroube of La Cépède—resembles, in a great degree, the *L. fimbriata*, but is placed by the count among the salamanders : by Schneider and our author, it is considered as a distinct species. The Schneiderian gecko is taken from the works of the naturalist honoured by our author by affixing his name as the trivial one ; and the *L. Sparmanniana* seems to occur in the Linnæan system, as *L. Geitje*. The *L. Sputator* is also described by Sparmann, and does not occur in the System of Nature.

Of the scinks, we find also some species not generally known in this country. The *L. longicauda* is taken from Seba : the

*L. mabouya* from la Cépède. The *L. occidua* is the galliwasps of Sloane, of which there is a variety from Australasia.

The salamanders, newts, or efts, form the next section; and, from the account of the well-known salamander, we shall extract some observations not uninteresting.

\* The salamander, so long the subject of popular error, and of which so many idle tales have been recited by the more ancient naturalists, is an inhabitant of many parts of Germany, Italy, France, &c. but does not appear to have been discovered in England. It delights in moist and shady places, woods, &c. and is chiefly seen during a rainy season. In the winter it lies concealed in the hollows about the roots of old trees; in subterraneous recesses, or in the cavities of old walls, &c. The salamander is easily distinguished by its colours; being of a deep shining black, variegated with large, oblong, and rather irregular patches of bright orange-yellow, which, on each side the back, are commonly so disposed as to form a pair of interrupted longitudinal stripes; the sides are marked by many large, transverse wrinkles, the intermediate spaces rising into strongly marked convexities; and the sides of the tail often exhibit a similar appearance: on each side the back of the head are situated a pair of large tubercles, which are in reality the parotid glands, and are thus protuberant not only in some others of the lizard tribe, but in a remarkable manner in the genus *rana*: these parts, as well as the back and sides of the body, are beset in the salamander with several large open pores or foramina, through which exudes a peculiar fluid, serving to lubricate the skin, and which, on any irritation, is secreted in a more sudden and copious manner under the form of a whitish gluten, of a slightly acrimonious nature: and from the readiness with which the animal, when disturbed, appears to evacuate it, and that even occasionally to some distance, has arisen the long-continued popular error of the salamander's being enabled to live uninjured in the fire, which it has been supposed capable of extinguishing by its natural coldness, and moisture: the real fact is, that, like any of the cold and glutinous animals, as snails, &c. it, of course, is not quite so instantaneously destroyed by the force of fire as an animal of a drier nature would be.' p. 291.

This animal is viviparous; and its young are seemingly excluded in the water, provided with temporary fins: it is perfectly innoxious to large animals or the human race. A particular description of the Leverian water-newt, a species hitherto unknown, from the Leverian Museum, is subjoined. No history is annexed to the specimen, nor is its native place known. Snake-lizards form the last family; of which the first, the *L. chalcides* of Linnæus, is well known; and the chalcide of count la Cépède seems to be a variety of it; though we suspect it should form another species. This family approaches very nearly to the serpents, and is in general known to Linnæus, except the *L. lumbricoides*, first described by La Cépède under the title of *La Cannelle*.

The second part of the volume must be reserved for another



opportunity ; but we cannot conclude this article, without again expressing our warmest approbation of the execution. Many will find satisfaction from the author's very pleasing and simply-elegant descriptions ; but few—except those who have wandered in the labyrinth of hasty inaccurate observers, though assisted by the occasional elucidations of Schneider and Laurenti—will perceive the peculiarly minute and philosophical discriminations of Dr. Shaw, and properly appreciate the real value of the work.

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ART. IV.—*The New Annual Register, or general Repository of History, Politics, and Literature, for the Year 1801. To which is prefixed, the History of Knowledge, Learning, and Taste, in Great Britain, during the Reign of King Charles II.—Part V, 8vo. 14s. Boards. Robinsons. 1802.*

AN Annual Register rises greatly in value and importance above the diurnal and monthly vehicles of intelligence. Compiled at a greater distance from the occurrences, passion and prejudice in some degree disappear, and calm reflexion is happily enabled to supply their place ; while a judicious selection separates the more trifling from the more important objects, and gives to each its comparative value. In some points, the conductor anticipates the historian, brings together events widely distant in their scenes, and compares the probable consequences in their most remote bearings. If such be the advantages of these more matured reflexions on the passing scenes of common life, or the more important events of the political world, the progressive state of literature is represented, in such returning publications, with peculiar interest and instruction. Each volume, connected with those which precede it, gives one uninterrupted picture of the labours of philosophers, poets, metaphysicians, travelers, &c. for an extended period. If it be urged that the time is often too short to sooth the angry brow of the disappointed politician, or to dissipate the mist of prejudice from minds which have long indulged a favourite train of ideas ; yet, in literature, it is sufficient, in many instances, to establish some foundation for an accurate discrimination of real merit, and to distinguish between the tinsel which may excite popular applause, and the real splendor which irradiates works of true genius. We have allowed, in effect, that party prejudice is so deeply rooted as to be removed with difficulty in the space of two years ; and the conduct of the historians of the present work and its rival support the opinion. Yet the delay has some effect on liberal minds ; and the experienced writer of successive annual records will begin to suspect, on a candid reflexion, that he may

be wrong, especially if he is warmly interested. He will of course be more guarded; and, to be aware of the bias, is the best method of guarding against its influence. The authors of the history, in the present volume, seem to feel that they have been too much heated, if we may judge from their having become the panegyrists of several of the present ministers who do not differ in many points from *some* of their predecessors. A little of the old leaven, nevertheless, remains; and a peculiar, a suspicious, coldness pervades the narrative of the events, when the plans originated with the former ministers. On the whole, though something must be subtracted from the merit of this volume, when we consider it as the materials of the future historian, we can, in general, praise its execution. The parliamentary transactions are faithfully reported; the collection of public papers and accounts appears to be complete; the selections from the publications of the year, judicious and well arranged; the view of domestic literature, full, and, generally, impartial. We must, however, be more particular.

The editor, in the preface, claims the approbation of the public for the conduct of the *New Annual Register*, from the test of experience; and, if they be now the panegyrists of ministers, it is 'because government, in its measures, has come to *them*:' they remain, therefore, it is remarked, consistent. We believe it would not be easy to prove this assertion in all its branches. With respect to the war, it is true; and no one can be more cordial supporters of the present peace than ourselves; for, in reality, the aggrandisement of France arose, and must be augmented, by the continuance of war. It requires little sagacity to perceive that that vast empire, as now united, is kept together by terror; that it is only compressed by opposition; and chiefly formidable in the tumultuous din of war. Should the peace continue, new objects will be the result; rivalry will succeed to alliances; and the poverty of France—for not even the good fortune of Bonaparte, the brightest jewel in his new imperial crown, can make that nation, for many years, a commercial one—will render her more dreaded as an ally than as an enemy.

The dissolution of the ministry leads the author, in the first chapter, to examine the administration of Mr. Pitt. He seems to allow that other causes of his resignation, besides the ostensible ones, existed; and it is probable that one of these was the continuance of the war. The political character of Mr. Pitt is not drawn, as may be supposed, in colours highly favorable: imputations of inconsistency, haste, and imperiousness, appear in almost every part; and we may allow, that, in the inexperience of his early career, much was done which was soon retracted; much attempted which could not be carried into exe-



cution. Yet, if the exertions of this country were warranted by the emergencies ; if, as is contended, religion, social order, and regular government, were at stake, Mr. Pitt's conduct was bold, energetic, able, and decisive. The moment for making peace was lost or overlooked.

• Yet the errors of Mr. Pitt were rather errors of judgment than of principle. The little and factious calumny which would ascribe to him a deliberate plan to overthrow the liberties of his country is to be despised. He disliked liberty only when it thwarted his views ; and he sported occasionally with the constitution of his country, only to serve the little purposes of party, the exigencies of the moment. He is charged, with equal injustice perhaps, with having extended the system of parliamentary corruption. It does not appear that such a charge is well founded : on the contrary, the influence which he employed appears to have been of a more open and direct nature than that which was established either by Walpole or lord North. He lavished the honours of the peerage, it is true, with an unsparing hand, and some new offices were created. But the system of bribery, under the colour of participating in the loan, was laid aside ; nor does it appear, on the whole, that the pension list was immoderately enlarged.

• So inapplicable indeed is the charge of pursuing despotism on a system, that the great misfortune of this administration was, that they were totally without any plan or system whatever. It was a temporising *make-shift* administration, which pursued no measures whatever with consistency. Genius, like virtue, yields not to times or humours, or circumstances, but makes them all ultimately subservient to its own enlarged and liberal system of policy ; but Mr. Pitt's administration was best characterised by a favourite phrase of his own, *existing circumstances*. His first political project was a parliamentary reform, but he discovered that *existing circumstances* would not admit it. He undertook to extinguish the national debt ; he concluded by doubling it. He prided himself upon being the minister of peace ; he soon experienced an inordinate passion for war. Thus, one part of his administration was a contradiction of another ; one system served as a practical refutation of the preceding ; and it is a well-known fact, that a measure of the highest national importance, which had been ordered in the afternoon, has been revoked the succeeding morning.

• The same inconsistency is observable in the causes, or rather excuses, for the late war. At one time it was a war voluntarily undertaken in the true spirit of chivalry “ for religion, monarchy, and social order ;” at another, we were forced into it by the aggression of our adversaries. At one period it was carried on to procure “ indemnity for the past, and security for the future ;” at another, for the express purpose of restoring the house of Bourbon. In the negotiation at Paris, the *sine qua non* was the restoration of the Netherlands to the emperor of Germany ; in the answer to the overture of Bonaparte, it was the re-establishment of monarchy in France. Contrary to the policy of all wise statesmen, who embrace the moment of good

fortune to secure the most advantageous terms, our ministers were haughty and insolent in success, and abject in ill-fortune; they negotiated only when their allies were beaten off the field.' P. 5.

We know not whether it be fair to consider the language of parliament as real motives, or to torture what may be wrested in the warmth of a debate, or may be requisite to colour reasons that ought not to be explained, into real objects. The war, whether provoked or not, was begun hastily, and continued with obstinacy. In the midst of it, however, the plan for paying its expenses was steadily continued; and, at its expiration, a fund was accumulated, which, in a few years, would attain that end. It is alleged, that, of the three plans proposed by Dr. Price, Mr. Pitt chose the worst. It is true, as we formerly had occasion to show: but he chose the only practicable one; and, if the government, by the depression of the funds, paid a higher interest for money, it received some compensation by the more rapid accumulation of the consolidated fund. The taxes of Mr. Pitt were not, perhaps, in every instance well chosen; but to tax vanities and luxuries has been always recommended; and, where such vast sums are to be raised, it is not surprising that some of the imposts may have been found improper.

The parliamentary debates are, as we have said, faithfully detailed; but they want that luminous compression, that comprehensive energy, which gives the force of a long speech in a few lines. Sometimes, indeed, the language should be preserved; but, in a work of this kind, the greater number of speeches will bear considerable abridgement. The whole of the parliamentary transactions extends to nearly 250 pages.

The general view of 'Domestic Affairs' is short; and the frankness and moderation of ministers, the method and impartiality with which the public business is conducted, are the subjects of praise. The northern confederacy is the next object; and the expedition under sir Hyde Parker, to the Baltic, is coldly and imperfectly related. The design and the success are, in some degree, mis-represented. The passage of the Sound, indeed, *was* 'deemed impossible;' but it was passed with comparative safety, because there was no opposition on the side of Sweden. It is singular that no notice is taken of the gallantry of sir Thomas Graves, who brought the 'Defiance' forward in the line against the crown batteries; and that, among the causes of the ultimate termination, the conviction that Copenhagen was not defensible by any power the Danes could bring against a British fleet and British seamen, is not mentioned. The insinuation of lord Nelson 'spontaneously offering a cessation of arms, which, it is said, was not less necessary to his own than the



enemy's forces,' is not just. We know, from the best authority, that, after the crown batteries were silenced, and the last ship was in flames, lord Nelson said to his second in command—'We have done all that we were directed to do. Why should we destroy these poor creatures, no longer able to resist? Are we not justified in proposing a cessation of arms?' The termination of the contest, it is said, 'is not to be attributed to the victory of Copenhagen, or to the victorious progress of the British fleet,' but to the death of the *magnanimous* Paul. This is another insinuation that merits notice. The Danish fleet and the Danish seamen are not so insignificant in the northern alliance as to deserve no regard. To show the Danes that their arsenal might be destroyed, was to detach them from the confederacy; and would certainly have shaken the resolution of the Swedes, and even of Paul, had he survived. The historian, we think, ought not to have passed wholly over another subject, which has occasioned some animadversion; *viz.* why sir Hyde Parker, when one ship grounded, had not supplied its place; why he had not commanded the attack himself; and why he was so coldly received by the admiralty, and so slightly complimented by parliament. The editor ought also to have known that sir Hyde Parker's object was not limited to Copenhagen, but extended to Carlsrona and Revel. His further progress was, however, thus prevented. Why the subject of the contest was afterwards compromised, and, as *we* think, somewhat disgracefully limited, it is not our present business to inquire. Probably, in this enlightened age, these rigorous impositions are not practicable; perhaps not being able to gain the whole, it was better to secure a part. The editor's observations are judicious, and merit the notice of the candid examiner.

• Soon after, a cessation of arms, and the general outline of a pacific accommodation with Great-Britain, were agreed on between the Russian court and sir Hyde Parker; and lord St. Helen's was dispatched from our court with full powers to terminate the dispute. In the mean time, the embargo on the British ships detained in the ports of Russia was removed; and this honourable conduct was answered by a correspondent act of liberality on the part of Great-Britain. Under these favourable auspices the negociation commenced, and from such appearances it was natural to conclude that each party would be disposed to concede a little; and such, in truth, was the result. It is rather an awkward circumstance in a treaty of peace to provide for the events of a future war; but the present treaty comes not precisely under that predicament: its object was, in case of the prevalence of hostilities among the other European powers, to prevent a rupture between the contracting parties. We are not so cynical as to cavil at the conditions: on the contrary, we think they are such as a liberal system of policy would have conceded on our part, had there not even been any power in the other parties to resist our demands.

One stipulation is particularly deserving of praise; and that is, confining the right of search to the ships which are employed entirely in the service of government. Such vessels are at least under a more rigid discipline, their commanders ought to be better informed, and a stronger responsibility attaches to them, than to that motley race of adventurers who are found in privateers and letters-of-marque. Indeed, every restriction that can be laid upon these legal pirates must be salutary to commerce, and conducive to the welfare of mankind.—The manner in which this right of search is to be exercised is also well calculated for the prevention of contest and dispute. Every merchant-ship of a neutral power, which sails under convoy, is to be furnished with a passport, or sea-letter, containing a true description of the cargo with which it is freighted; and this is to be subjected to the inspection of the officer who superintends the convoy. Under these circumstances the convoy is to pass unmolested by the ships of war of the other contracting party, that party being in a state of war with another nation. All that can be demanded is to inspect the papers, and to ascertain that the commander is properly authorised to convoy such vessels, laden with articles not contraband, to a certain port. It is only upon good ground of suspicion that the commander of any ship of war can detain any merchant-ship under these circumstances; and should he detain any without just and sufficient cause appearing, he must then make full compensation to the owners of such vessel for any loss, detriment, cost, or damages, which may be incurred by such detention. The number of articles which are to be in future considered as contraband is also reduced; and among the exemptions are iron, copper, timber, pitch, tar, hemp, and sailcloth, which were formerly regarded as prohibited articles.' P. 261.

In the details respecting the expedition to Egypt, the editor is, with many who opposed the infraction of the treaty of El-Arish, severe on the advisers of that measure. We will add, that we think it impolitic and unjust; but we ought also to add, that, on a moment's consideration, ministers thought the same. Yet the relative situation of the two nations should be considered; and the consequences of pouring 20,000 veteran troops, in the critical moment of the contending armies, on the plains of Italy, not be disregarded. The fate of Europe might have been decided by it, as it was afterwards decided at Marengo, by debilitating the centre of the Austrian army, in a weak moment of general Melas. In the whole narrative of the Egyptian expedition, there is a considerable defect of original information. At this period it requires somewhat more than confidence to say, that the French garrison at Cairo did not exceed four or five thousand men.

The action of sir J. Saumarez with the French and Spanish fleets in the Straits is equally mis-represented. It was no 'battle': it was a flight and pursuit; and, independently of the accident, it was glorious to British spirit and enterprise. It represents,



too, the Hannibal as carried off, when it is well known that she returned useless and unserviceable to Algesiras.

When, however, we arrive at the 'Foreign History,' we have no reason to complain of cold caution and faint praise. The French achievements are blazoned with the warmest colouring. What relates to the negotiation respecting the proposed naval armistice is very imperfectly narrated, and seems to demand a more ample discussion.

The same spirit pervades the minor transactions, and the narrative of the affairs of France. Even the unprovoked aggression of Paul passes for a common transaction, which provokes neither praise, censure, nor animadversion. It does not excite the author's irascibility, though attended with circumstances of cruelty and oppression without example in the history of nations.

Of the other parts of the volume, which consist chiefly of extracts, we have already spoken with commendation. A very interesting *original* account of the late laborious and attentive Duke Gordon, librarian of the University of Edinburgh, is inserted, from the communication of professor Dalziel. The poetry also is elegant, and merits a more ample circulation. In the 'Domestic Literature' we perceive an apparent error of consequence, where Dr. Shaw's Zoölogy is said to be continued with '*impaired* elegance and accuracy\*.' If correct, the reviewer is either misled or mistaken. On the whole, however, this volume is a respectable one. We have engaged in the different details at greater length than usual; a practice we occasionally adopt to prevent carelessness and indolence. We trust that in a future volume we shall have less to reprehend.

ART. V. — *Poems on various Subjects, by Thomas Dermody.*  
8vo. 4s. 6d. Boards. Hatchard. 1802.

THESE Poems are evidently the productions of a man of genius; but they seem to be desultory effusions, neither premeditated nor corrected. Mr. Dermody has read our older and better poets with feeling and attention: he has imitated their manner and their spelling, and the inartificial structure of their stories. But this is blind admiration. However sweet in its sounds and beautiful in its separate lines, poetry will fail to please, if it be not connected with some interest of narrative, some manliness of thought, some delineation of human character or human action.

\* We have made some inquiries respecting this part of the subject, and are informed, on good authority, that it is an error of the press. The word in the manuscript is *unimpaired*. EDITOR.

The 'Extravaganza,' says this author, is perhaps the most original and fanciful poem I ever had sufficient powers to compose. Some extracts from this piece will justify our praise and our censure: it opens thus:

' Oh ! for a journey to th'Antipodes,  
Or some lone region of remotest Ind !  
Where, sagely sad, in solitary ease  
My weary sprite a safe retreat might find,  
Where nothing might perturb my pensive mind,  
But such delicious phantasies, as please  
The forming eye, when fiery flakes at eve,  
With wayward shapes the listless sense deceive.  
Then wingy-heel'd Imagination's flight  
Would bear me, devious, thro' the lamping sky ;  
Then, haply, should I feel no low delight  
From earthly bonnibel's bewitching eye ;  
Voluptuous, in her dainty arms to lie,  
Ne stoop, inglorious, from so proud a height ;  
While my fond heart pour'd forth it's vain distress,  
Snar'd in the fetters of a golden tress !'  
' Such was my wish, romantic wish, I ween,  
When that soft nigromansir, baulmy sleep,  
Laid me, entranced, amid a pleasant scene,  
Where many a welling spring did murmurous creep,  
To lull me with its liquid lapses deep ;  
And, shaking their broad locks of glorious green,  
Tall trees their thick, lascivious leaves entwin'd,  
To woo with dalliaunce blithe the Western wind.' P. 29.

Here a female form descends to him in a veil of roses.

' Her sunny ringlets, wove in cunning braid,  
Form'd for her lily front a coronet ;  
Her persant eyes two precious gems betraid,  
In living alabaster featly set,  
Arch'd with their graceful brows of shiny jet ;  
Her swelling bosom thro' its slender shade  
Leap'd to be seen ; her round and dimply chin  
Would tempt a frozen eremite to sin.  
A silken samile slightly did enfold  
Her luscious limbs, girt with a starry zone,  
It's colour heavn'ly blue, bedropt with gold,  
And crimson, gorgeous as the proud pavone ;  
A lambent glory on her temples shone :  
In sooth, she look'd not one of Nature's mold,  
But some gay creature whom the Minstrel sees,  
Aërial floating on the evening-breeze.' P. 33.

The sylph then describes to him the various occupations of her kindred spirits. Much fancy is displayed in this part, and,



as most of the images may be found in those vigorous but unequal writers from whom Mr. Dermody has formed his poetical style, we are pleased to see them here brought together in such sweet lines.

‘ ——— Some, the dol’rous servants of Despair,  
With headless steeds the car of Death prepare.

‘ Four skeletons the coal-black coursers stride ;  
With flamy fingers four direct the way ;  
A winding-sheet so white, distended wide,  
Dabbled in blood, the coffin doth array :  
Four hideous urchins at each corner play,  
And, in quaint gambol, shift from side to side ;  
Meanwhile, the thrice-repeated groan severe  
Smites the expiring Sinner’s closing ear.

Less fearful pranks befit the merry fays :  
By the trim margent of some huddling stream,  
To revel in the pale moon’s tremulous rays ;  
To prompt the doting nurse’s idle dream ;  
Or lure the mutt’ring carl with wanton gleam ;  
Yet oft some ouphe malign, in cradle slays  
The slumb’ring babe, then sucks his flowing gore,  
And, grinning, leaves him strangled on the floor.’ p. 39.

She goes on to inform him that her own employ is—

‘ To point the transport of the thrilling kiss,  
Ne’er known the maiden’s throbbing heart to miss ;  
T’ anneal the drop that falls on Feeling’s shrine ;  
To soothe the Lover’s soul when frenzy-fraught ;  
Or lift sublime the Poet’s towering thought ;

‘ Arise ! arise ! do not thy pulses beat  
More lively marches to forego thy lot ?  
Feels not thy breast a more exalted heat,  
Loos’d from mortality, and yon dim spot ?  
Surpassing joys, beyond conception wrought,  
In my embrace thy purer sense await !  
Embay’d in ecstasies, my humil head  
I rear’d ; and lo ! the fair phantasma fled.’ p. 43.

All this is beautiful: but to what does the poem tend? We hope better things from the author, since we find him at last

‘ Musing on descant high, whose future birth  
Haply may not my humble name abase.’

Something of the same anticipation we discover in the conclusion of the next poem. We hope it is prophetic.

‘ Then wail not, Genius ! thy unworthy lot,  
Where’er thou sadly shrink’st from sight profane ;

Thy patient labours shall not be forgot,  
 Nor lost the influence of thy lofty strain;  
 From glory's nodding crest, of crimson stain,  
 The laurel shall forsake it's seat sublime;  
 The prostrate column load the groaning plain;  
 While rising o'er the wreck, thy sacred rhyme  
 Shall fire to noble feats the sons of future time.

' Vagrant, and scoff'd, and houseless, as thou art,  
 The powerful spell of thy exalted theme,  
 Shall wake to bolder deed the warrior's heart,  
 Shall breathe o'er sleeping Love a brighter dream;  
 From every line shall fresh Instruction stream;  
 The cottage-hearth thy pensive plaint shall hear;  
 In regal hall thy glittering harp shall gleam;  
 The dark, cold breast of lonely Sorrow chear;  
 And start from Phrenzy's lid Conviction's frozen tear.

' Heav'ns! can I stoop to aught of mortal mold,  
 Whom shapes fantastic beck to bliss unknown?  
 Say, can I glote on rayless heaps of gold,  
 When yon ethereal landscape is my own?  
 Where it's pure Sov'reign plants his fiery throne;  
 Are not his aureate shafts elanced around,  
 'Till, by her twinkling train distinctly known,  
 His Sister meek, with paler glories crown'd,  
 Uprears her maiden front, with argent fillet bound?

' Hence! the deep gloom, that wraps in central shade,  
 The struggling splendors of th' immortal Mind!  
 Hence! ev'ry black surmise, that would invade  
 The breast by charming sympathies refin'd!  
 Ye felon doubts! I give you to the wind:  
 Fortune benign, now, blows her gentlest airs,  
 To aid my vent'rous flight, too long confin'd;  
 And Fancy her undaunted plume prepares,  
 To sail the highest heav'n;—Avaunt ye scowling Cares!' p. 53.

The shorter pieces are mere trifles. The author evidently writes with facility; and we suspect he publishes all he writes. Many complimentary lines to living authors are inserted, and these are always more creditable to his good-nature than his judgement. The ludicrous poems are miserably bad. A farmer mistakes a German corn-cutter for a dealer in corn, and invites him to dinner.

' Well; dinner's done; the cloth remov'd;  
 Each drank the toast to what he lov'd;  
 When thus the quack accosts him gaily,  
 " Pray, Sare, where mostly do your ail lye?"  
 " Sir," quoth the clown, in manner ample,  
 " To satisfy, I'll fetch a sample  
 O' last year's crop—" " Py Got, I'll crop 'em"



Exclaims the quack, alert to stop him,  
 " I'll take 'em root and pranch, mynheer!"  
 " Sir you know corn is very dear,  
 But if you please to take the whole,  
 You'll have a bargain, 'pon my soul."  
 " De whole, aye, aye, de whole, by Got,  
 I'll whip de whole out in a shot!"  
 So saying, while he drew his knife out,  
 (Enough to fright a poor man's life out,)  
 Right soon he rais'd him on his rump,  
 And seis'd the wond'ring farmer's stump,  
 Then, without farther disquisition,  
 On his big toe began incision,  
 And would have driven the weapon further,  
 Had not his patient roar'd out, murther!  
 " My Got, vat morthor, pye ant pye,  
 Your toe pe vite as your von eye,  
 I put just touche upon the pone,—  
 Daré now—you see de job is done!" P. 144.

We discover the country of the author in the phrase *big toe*.  
 His 'own Character' he has given us.

' ——— I confess, least you kindly mistake,  
 I'm a compound extreme of the sage and the rake;  
 Abstracted, licentious, affected, heroic,  
 A poet, a soldier, a coxcomb, a stoic;  
 This moment, abstemious as faquir or bramin;  
 The next, Aristippus-like, swinishly cramming;  
 Now, full of devotion, and loyal dispute;  
 A democrat, now, and a deist to boot;  
 Now, a frown on my front, and a leer in my eye;  
 Now, heaving unfeign'd sensibility's sigh;  
 Now, weighing with care each elaborate word;  
 Now, the jest of a tavern, as drunk as a lord;  
 By imminent woes, now, unmov'd as a stone;  
 And, now, tenderly thrill'd by a grief not my own.' P. 146.

' On looking over,' says the author, ' a variety of miscellaneous papers, which, through a particular casualty, have been for some years entirely lost to me, I find a few of them not quite devoid of that spirit and fancy which mark the earlier effusions of an enthusiast. To give an idea of their date, and perhaps to awaken curiosity, I must observe that two collections of my poems were published in the metropolis of the sister-kingdom; the first written between the 12th and 13th, the second between the 14th and 16th years of my age. Nearly eight years had elapsed before I again resumed the pen. Should this volume experience any tolerable degree of encouragement, I shall select some of those trifles which may appear the most pardonable, and introduce them in the course of a work I have long fondly meditated, which will be no other than a "Memoir of the first twenty-six years of my Own Life," a life which has not been, as

I too sensibly feel, barren of extraordinary incident, or unattended with various observation.' P. x.

The poems, which Mr. Dermody thus mentions, we well remember. We read them with surprise and delight; and have often regretted that so fair a blossom had produced no fruit. Ten years have not ripened his talents as we should have expected. If there are fewer blemishes in his present productions, there are fewer beauties. A fairer harvest might have been produced had he but attended to the advice of his own sylphid.

" Full ill, (she cries) my pupil, has thine ear  
Receiv'd the moral lore, I, whilom, taught;  
Tho' prodigal of fancy, who will hear  
Thy numbers vague, with no instruction fraught,  
And destitute of heav'n-descended thought?  
Tho' slighting the severer rules of art,  
With choicest cunning is thy descant wrought,  
If thou to lull the sense, neglect the heart,

Trust me, advent'rous youth! we suddenly must part." P. 66.

While finishing this notice of his poems, we have just heard of Mr. Dermody's death.

ART. VI.—*The Letters of a Solitary Wanderer: containing Narratives of various Description. By Charlotte Smith. Vols. IV. and V. 12mo. 10s. Boards. Longman and Rees. 1802.*

WE are sorry to have incurred Mrs. Smith's displeasure, and beg leave to observe, in our own defence, that the remarks were not, *designedly*, invidious. Certain it is, that we have drawn on ourselves her direst vengeance. We are ladies (not *old* women)—attorneys or bum-bailiffs—the retainers of party—our 'malignity' (for we are many) 'supplies the want of learning and integrity;' and 'we are inadequate to the task of correcting the advertisements in a country newspaper.'—'Can a woman rail thus?'—*tantane animis muliebribus ira?*

We trust that 'after speaking her mind' in common language, or what may be styled a little scolding, she is more comfortable, and in as good humour as ourselves. If so, we will offer a few calm observations on the subject.

If it be contended, that, when an author has once written well, he must ever continue to do so, experience will be decisively in opposition to the opinion. Whatever merit may be in the criticisms on the earlier works of Mrs. Smith, those on the later cannot be debased by a greater proportion of ignorance, since it is not easy to *unlearn*; and, we trust, not of malignity, since it has not appeared in any other form. In fact, they are written



by the same person, to whichever of the honourable classes the critic may belong. Returning, after some interval, to Mrs. Smith's last volumes, he was led to compare them with the former; and stated the balance, in his opinion, with impartiality. He premised, as he had done before, that if novels were examples of life and manners, the examples, in many of Mrs. Smith's works, were faulty or dangerous; and noticed, as a singular circumstance, the constant introduction of a prudent old lady—'the world's brightest ornament.' We are surprised that the real faults, reprehended with some severity, should not be noticed; but that the old lady should have given the deepest wound. Boys may make the most unequal and imprudent connexions; young women may pursue, with indiscretion, the victim of his country's laws; nocturnal meetings of the most improper kind may take place; and these be blamed without inflicting a pang; but a casual observation of little moment is the spark which occasions the explosion. Let us then seriously ask, if Mrs. Stafford, the victim of a husband's imprudence; if other ladies, of a certain age, oppressed in their circumstances, and despoiled by what are called harpies of the law, may not be supposed copies of herself, without any injurious imputation? Was it a crime that Smollett's Roderic Random was copied from himself; that Fielding, in Tom Jones, related his own imprudencies; or that Dr. Hill in many of his novels was himself the hero? To come nearer home, is there a trait in either character pointed out, which Mrs. Smith would disclaim? Whence then this resentment? It can only be resolved into one circumstance; that the gross errors in the examples held up were too obvious to admit of an apology; and the whole weight of resentment on this account is transferred to an innocent remark of not the slightest importance; but which would admit of animadversion. We have, however, said, that we feel no displeasure at these little ebullitions of resentment, as we are conscious that, in Mrs. Smith's extensive literary warfare, the milk of human kindness has always, in our journal, softened the severity of criticism; that we have cheerfully praised, and condemned with gentleness. We only lament her error.

In the review of the former volumes of this work, we mentioned, with some slight censure, the very abrupt inartificial mode of connecting this string of narratives. The 'Wanderer's' own story was to have been the last, and the links would then, we find, have been more conspicuous. We wish this had been explained sooner. Other circumstances have, however, given additional awkwardness to the appearance of these volumes. On the death of her former publisher, who possessed the manuscript of the fourth and fifth volumes, the two parts of the work were sold to different persons; and the little novels, now before us, conclude even more abruptly than the former. The mind is

left in uneasy suspense, from which we have little prospect of relief, as the Wanderer's adventures are, we find, to be rendered distinct and unconnected; at least so far as the circumstances will admit. The adventures of the Hungarian are well introduced; and we feel considerable interest in the events of the life of one who, though, in fact, a robber, and bent on deliberate revenge, perhaps in the event on fratricide, yet seems to command our respect, when we reflect on the magnitude of the provocations—the cruelty of his former treatment. We may ask, however, should such pictures be represented? Should it be for a moment admitted that, in any situation, such crimes can lose the slightest portion of their enormity? These are questions we need not answer; but may add, that the darkest shades are softened as much as possible. The Hungarian professes not to join his companions on their bloody expeditions, and his object is only to obtain *satisfaction* from his brother. But, linked with such companions, where is the power that can stop short? This is the principle that we would oppose. We must not employ agents that we cannot control; and, with such agents, the innocence of our prior intentions will not avail in excusing the event.

The story of Leonora arises in part from that of Gertrude Leycester. It is pleasing and interesting. We dare not hint at a supposed copy; but we greatly wish that we had left all the parties in repose. From this part we shall select a specimen; not because equally interesting ones do not occur in the first story, but that the relative situation of the parties are not so easily explained. In this case, the Wanderer had met and protected a little boy, who was seeking his mother in Ireland, left by an *imprudent* father.

‘In a neighbouring county there is a family-house, at which an old friend of mine sometimes resides for a few weeks in the year. I heard, before I left Dublin, that this was the period of his occasional sojourn; and, on inquiry, I found it was about fifty-five miles from Killeashaugh. As I could find in this latter town no traces of the persons I sought, I determined to leave it for Kallanross. Edward resigned, with deep yet silent regret, the hope he had entertained of finding his mother. His gratitude to me increased; yet I saw him drooping under the conviction that he was indeed a friendless orphan, dependent on the bounty of a stranger.

‘Our way lay along the wild coast, indented here with deep bays, and there shooting out into vast promontories, ending in high headlands, that, towering, appeared to command the hemisphere. Some part of the road was over these, or on the sands at their base; and the ascents or descents among them were so broken by torrents, or impeded by masses of stone, that we performed much more of our journey on foot than on our horses. Yet, notwithstanding all our diligence, and though Edward is an excellent traveler, the evening was closing upon us while we were yet distant some miles from the small hamlet, where we were told we might remain for the night.



The night approached sullenly, and the wind high and keen, only admitted the rising moon to appear as the dark clouds were sometimes divided. I found that the guide we had hired (for here it is impossible to travel without one,) was an ignorant and a timorous fellow, and, probably pressed by want, had, for the sake of earning a few shillings, undertaken a task to which he was incompetent; nor was that suspicion, after a time, the worst I entertained of him. I thought he had purposely misled us, and that we should meet with some of those disagreeable adventures that had been predicted at Dublin. I therefore insisted on his conducting us immediately, by the safest way, to the valley which we saw before us, and where I had distinguished what I took to be a church, or chapel, near some other large and apparently ruinous buildings, with some huts of the peasants scattered around near them. The man promised to obey, but failed not to remonstrate on the badness of the road, and his ignorance of any path but that along which he was before directing us. I persisted, however, and leading our horses, we began to descend as well as we could.

‘The attention of every individual was, in some degree, necessary to his own safety, save that both Arnold and I were, from time to time, as occasion required, solicitous for our younger companion, who, however, scrambled better than any of us. Our progress was slow, and we had not yet descended above half way, when loud shrieks, or rather yells, were heard in the vale beneath us, and we saw fire, in many places, blazing from the buildings which at night-fall we had descried. I inquired of the guide what all this meant? He answered, in apparent confusion, that he supposed it was an attack of one party against another, and that the aggressors had set fire to the village. “Such things,” said the man, “happen very often; and we shall be wise if we will not get among them.”—The shrieks now increased, and the report of fire-arms was heard. The cries of women and children, and the execrations of men, loaded the wind. I could not remain unconcerned while a scene of this sort was transacting. I bade Arnold give me the pistols he carried, and take care of the boy while I hastened on. Arnold refused to leave me; and the spirited boy, grasping my hand, asked me if I thought him so childish, or so cowardly, as to fly from danger which I found it necessary to face. While I answered, we were on the plain, and, mounting our horses, the increasing light of the fires, and the cries and shouts, guided us to the spot.

‘Heavens! what a scene was presented to us. The catholics had attacked a village where a few protestant families lived, in consequence of an old quarrel which had been lately renewed with increased acrimony. I had, however, no time to inquire into the merits of the cause. I saw that one party were superior to the other in numbers, and that about thirty men had formed themselves into a little phalanx round the ancient manorial house, or castle, (for such it appeared to me to be,) and towards them I endeavoured, with my two auxiliaries, Edward and honest Arnold, to make my way. The assailants seemed to give more importance than it deserved to this small reinforcement. I joined the men who guarded the gate, where the others appeared somewhat less determined to enter; and with my

hanger I made them recede still farther, while this hasty account was given me by one of the men whose language convinced me he was an Englishman. "Sir," said he, "this house is inhabited by an English lady—a woman in distress, with her children. She has been the idol of the country ever since she has been here, and done more good in one week to the poor wretches round the place, than all the priests together will do in an hundred years. One of them, because she took into her service and converted a girl that the priest had a mind to, has set these fanatic fellows against her and the people of the village, who are all church people. There was a wake last night at a cluster of cottages just by, and the people being half mad and quite drunk with whiskey, they were spirited up to do all this mischief, if they get into the house."

"They shall not," said I, "at least I will not see it." It would be an awkward narrative to say thus, and thus, did I, or rather we, for neither Arnold nor my brave little companion were idle. Let it suffice then to tell you, that the savages were repulsed, and I began to believe they were so far intimidated, that I might advance among them and prevent their committing farther cruelties on the defenceless women and children, whose habitations they were destroying. But before I had time to take the precautions necessary to the safe execution of such a plan, a dreadful shriek was heard within the house, the outer door of which we had defended, it suddenly opened, and a woman holding a child in her arms, while other children and some female servants followed, rushed out and sprang towards me, imploring help and protection. Gracious heaven! if the most painful anxiety would have been excited by seeing any woman in such a situation, what were my sensations when Edward called out on his mother, and clasping him wildly in her arms, that mother fell apparently dead at my feet.' Vol. v. p. 67.

In such detached scenes of pathos and interest, Mrs. Smith is unrivaled; nor, in the general conduct of her stories, does she deserve censure, except in those parts which we have formerly pointed out, and which she has not defended. Another little story arises out of the adventures of Leonora, of which we arrive at the conclusion.

We must not omit noticing one or two errors. They are not connected with the narrative; but if Mrs. Smith is not better acquainted with ancient or modern history, it would have been wiser to have avoided the allusions, as they now mislead those who may chance to recollect the passages of a work which they took up for amusement only. We allude to the Druids sacrificing human victims 'in honour of *their* God *Thor*,' vol. v. p. 37; and attributing the reformation in the thirty-ninth page of the same volume to the *reflexions* of Luther and Calvin.



ART. VII.—*The miscellaneous Works of Oliver Goldsmith, M. B. A new Edition, in Four Volumes. To which is prefixed, some Account of his Life and Writings. 4 Vols. 8vo. 11. 16s. Boards. Johnson.*

THE man to whom we have owed so much entertainment, whose singularities and oddities have amused us equally with his talents and knowledge, will always recur to our recollection with interest and regret. It is perhaps surprising, that, with such varied acquaintance in the world of letters, he has met with no very well informed biographer till this period; and that the complete collection of his miscellaneous works, and the account of his life, should have been delayed nearly thirty years. The editor recommends them to the notice of the public by Dr. Johnson's brief but comprehensive eulogy.

‘ He was a man of such variety of powers, and such felicity of performance, that he always seemed to do best that which he was doing; a man who had the art of being minute without tediousness, and general without confusion; whose language was copious without exuberance, exact without constraint, and easy without weakness.

‘ The account of his life is composed from the information of persons, who were intimate with the poet at an early period, and who were honoured with a continuance of his friendship till the time, when the world was deprived of this fascinating writer. Their names, were the editor at liberty to mention them, would immediately dispel all doubts as to the authenticity of the memoirs, and reflect distinguished credit on the publication.

‘ In addition to the acknowledged performances of our author, the editor has introduced into these volumes several essays, which appeared in the periodical works of the day, and which he has ascertained to have proceeded from the pen of Dr. Goldsmith.’ Vol. i. p. iii.

Those who knew Dr. Goldsmith in his advanced life will be led to expect a series of oddities and blunders; but they will perhaps find the list more extensive than they supposed; and those who did not know him will be highly entertained with the life of a man so truly singular and eccentric. The account of the poet's early years is given by his eldest sister, and consequently may be supposed authentic.

‘ Oliver, however, was from his earliest infancy very different from other children, subject to particular humours, for the most part uncommonly serious and reserved, but when in gay spirits none ever so agreeable as he; and he began at so early a period to show signs of genius that he quickly engaged the notice of all the friends of the family, many of whom were in the church. At the age of seven or eight he discovered a natural turn for rhyming, and often amused his father and his friends with early poetical attempts.

When he could scarcely write legibly, he was always scribbling verses, which he burnt as he wrote them.

‘Observing his fondness for books and learning, his mother, with whom he was always a favourite, pleaded with his father to give him a liberal education: but his own narrow income, the expense attending the educating of his eldest son, and his numerous family, were strong objections. Oliver, in the mean time, was placed under the Rev. Mr. Griffin, then schoolmaster of Elphin, and was received into the house of his father’s brother, John Goldsmith, esq. of Ballyoughter, near that town, who with his family considered him as a prodigy for his age, and have handed down the following instance of his early wit.

‘A large company of young people of both sexes were assembled one evening at his uncle’s, and Oliver, then but nine years old, was required to dance a hornpipe, a youth playing to him at the same time on a fiddle. Being but newly recovered from the small-pox, by which he was much disfigured, and his figure being short and thick, the musician, very archly as he supposed, compared him to *Æsop* dancing; and still harping on this idea, which he conceived to be very bright, our conceited gentleman had suddenly the laugh turned against him, by Oliver’s stopping short in the dance with this retort:—

Our herald hath proclaim’d this saying,  
See *Æsop* dancing, and his monkey playing.

‘This smart reply decided his fortune, for from that time it was determined to send him to the university, and some of the relations, who were respectable clergymen, kindly offered to contribute towards the expense, particularly the rev. Thomas Contarine, who had married Oliver’s aunt, a gentleman of distinguished learning and good preferment.’ Vol. i. p. 4.

In one of Goldsmith’s little journeys to school, he made the mistake which is the foundation of one of his comedies, by ‘inquiring for the best *house* in the place,’ meaning an inn, but which the person of whom he inquired interpreted too literally. A little indiscretion at college, which his tutor resented with a very reprehensible intemperance, induced him to leave it, and he was for a time a vagabond. But at last his brother assisted him, and effected a reconciliation with the tutor; but his residence at college was short, as his father’s death, and perhaps the refusal of the bishop to ordain him, from the report of his former irregularities, induced him to accept the office of a private tutor. In this capacity he continued about a year, and then left the house, with about thirty pounds in his pocket, and a good horse.

‘His friends, after an absence of six weeks, without having heard what had become of him, concluded he had quitted the kingdom; when he suddenly returned to his mother’s house without a penny, upon a poor little horse not worth twenty shillings, which he called



**Fiddle-Back.** His mother, as might be expected, was highly offended, but his brothers and sisters had contrived to meet him there, and at length effected a reconciliation.

Being required to account for the loss of his money and linen, and the horse on which he had departed, he told them that he had been at Cork, where he had sold his horse, and paid for his passage for America, to a captain of a ship. But the winds proving contrary for three weeks, he had amused himself by seeing every thing curious in and about that city, and on the day the wind proved fair, being engaged with a party in an excursion into the country, his friend the captain had set sail without him. He continued in Cork till he had only two guineas left, out of which he paid forty shillings for Fiddle-Back, and when he wished to return home he had only the remaining crown in his pocket. Although this was rather too little for a journey of a hundred and twenty miles, he had intended to visit on the road not far from Cork a dear friend he had known in college, who had often pressed him to spend a summer at his house, and on whose assistance he depended for supplies. In this expectation he had given half his little stock to a poor woman in his way, who had solicited relief for herself and eight children, their father having been seized for rent, and thrown into jail.

He found his friend just recovering from a severe illness; who received him in his cap and slippers, but expressed the greatest joy to see him, and eagerly inquired what agreeable occasion had so happily brought him into that country. Oliver, delighted to think his distresses were now at an end, concealed no part of them from his host; to gratify his fine feelings, and to excite his sympathy, he represented in the strongest terms not only his present destitute condition, but the little prospect he had of returning home, on account of having so highly disoblinded his family, and observed, that it must be a work of time, and of long intercession, before he could again expect to be received into favour. The melancholy silence with which his affecting tale was heard he attributed to the tenderest compassion; and the frequent sighs of his friend, as he walked about rubbing his hands, and deeply lost in thought, consoled him under the dismal recital. The uncommon length of his friend's silence enabled him to renew the subject, and to expatiate on his hopeless situation, till it was at length terminated by his host's observing very drily, how inconvenient it was for him to receive company in his present state of weakness; that he had no provision in the house for a healthy person; he had nothing but slops and milk diet for himself; of which, if he pleased, Mr. Goldsmith might partake, but he feared it would not soon be got ready. This was dismal news to our hungry traveller, who, alas! had fasted the whole day, and it was not till six o'clock, when an old woman appeared and spread the table, on which she laid a small bowl of sagoe for her master, and a porringer of sour milk, with a piece of brown bread, for his guest. This being soon dispatched, the invalid pleaded the necessity of going early to bed, and left poor Oliver to his own meditations.

In the morning, consulting with his friend on his unfortunate

situation, he advised him to hasten home without loss of time, as his family must be highly offended at his absence. On this Oliver ventured to solicit the loan of a guinea for the support of himself and his horse on the road. Here again his host gravely advised him against running in debt, and urged that his own illness had deprived him of all his cash. But, my dear friend, said he, you may sell your horse for money sufficient to bear your charges, and I will furnish you with another for the journey. When Oliver desired him to produce this steed, he drew from under a bed an oaken staff. At which the poor youth was so provoked that he was going to apply it to his pate, when a loud knocking at the gate gave notice of the approach of a visitant. This was a neighbouring gentleman of a very engaging aspect; to whom, as if nothing had happened, our traveller was presented as the very ingenious young friend who had been mentioned to him with such high encomiums while they were at college.' Vol. i. p. 9.

The biographer indeed admits, that Goldsmith's proficiency at college was not considerable, chiefly in consequence of his tutor's ill usage; and he adds, in a note, a very singular and interesting anecdote of the family of his uncle, Mr. Thomas Contarine. It is however too long for our present purpose.

In 1752 Dr. Goldsmith repaired to Edinburgh for the purpose of studying medicine; and was, as usual, inconsiderate, eccentric, and convivial, not without a mixture of grimace and buffoonery, which he never wholly left off. Goldsmith's account of Scotland is a little unfavourable, but, at the period when he wrote, not a *very* strong caricature. His account of the Dutch is equally humorous and singular. These descriptions bear the genuine stamp of Goldsmith's genius, and may be read by his admirers with peculiar pleasure. Gaming again produced similar effects with his former eccentricities, and emptied his purse, leaving him to perform the tour of Europe on foot, without money. His adventures in this journey have been long before the public, as related by the Vicar of Wakefield's son.

We shall pass over the scenes of his distresses, till he assumed the medical character in London; but concluded, like some other eccentric physicians, by becoming an author.

'You may easily imagine,' he remarks in a letter to his brother-in-law, 'what difficulties I had to encounter, left as I was without friends, recommendations, money, or impudence; and that in a country where being born an Irishman was sufficient to keep me unemployed. Many in such circumstances would have had recourse to the friar's cord or the suicide's halter. But with all my follies I had principle to resist the one, and resolution to combat the other.'

'I suppose you desire to know my present situation. As there is nothing in it at which I should blush, or which mankind could censure, I see no reason for making it a secret; in short, by a very little practice as a physician, and a very little reputation as a poet, I make a shift to live. Nothing is more apt to introduce us to the



gates of the Muses than poverty; but it were well if they only left us at the door; the mischief is, they sometimes choose to give us their company at the entertainment, and want, instead of being gentleman-usher, often turns master of the ceremonies. Thus, upon hearing I write, no doubt you imagine I starve; and the name of an author naturally reminds you of a garret. In this particular I do not think proper to undeceive my friends. But whether I eat or starve; live in a first floor or four pair of stairs high; I still remember them with ardour, nay my very country comes in for a share of my affection. Unaccountable fondness for country, this *Maladie du Pays*, as the French call it! Unaccountable that he should still have an affection for a place, who never received when in it above common civility; who never brought any thing out of it except his brogue and his blunders. Surely my affection is equally ridiculous with the Scotchman's, who refused to be cured of the itch, because it made him unco'thoughtful of his wife and bonny Inverary.' Vol. i. p. 41.

At this time, and in circumstances not very promising, Dr. Goldsmith had an offer of going to India; and to equip him for the voyage, he seems to have entertained the design of publishing the "State of polite Literature." The letters on this subject do not appear to us in the advantageous light in which they are considered by the biographer. They have too much the air of a modern book-maker soliciting subscriptions by the art of puffing. His picture of himself is an unfavourable one; yet it is a likeness, though an displeasing resemblance. It is taken from a letter to his brother.

' Though I never had a day's sickness since I saw you, yet I am not that strong active man you once knew me. You scarcely can conceive how much eight years of disappointment, anguish, and study, have worn me down. If I remember right, you are seven or eight years older than me, yet I dare venture to say, that if a stranger saw us both, he would pay me the honours of seniority. Imagine to yourself a pale melancholy visage, with two great wrinkles between the eye-brows, with an eye disgustingly severe, and a big wig; and you may have a perfect picture of my present appearance. On the other hand, I conceive you are as perfectly sleek and healthy, passing many a happy day among your own children, or those who knew you a child. Since I knew what it was to be a man, this is a pleasure I have not known. I have passed my days among a parcel of cool designing beings, and have contracted all their suspicious manner in my own behaviour. I should actually be as unfit for the society of my friends at home, as I detest that which I am obliged to partake of here. I can now neither partake of the pleasure of a revel, nor contribute to raise its jollity. I can neither laugh nor drink, have contracted an hesitating disagreeable manner of speaking, and a visage that looks ill-nature itself; in short, I have thought myself into a settled melancholy, and an utter disgust of all that life brings with it.—Whence this romantic turn, that all our family are possessed with? Whence this love for every place and every country but that in which we reside?

for every occupation but our own? this desire of fortune, and yet this eagerness to dissipate? I perceive, my dear sir, that I am at intervals for indulging this splenetic manner, and following my own taste, regardless of yours.' Vol. i. p. 54.

'Teach then, my dear sir, to your son thrift and œconomy. Let his poor wandering uncle's example be placed before his eyes. I had learned from books to be disinterested and generous, before I was taught from experience the necessity of being prudent. I had contracted the habits and notions of a philosopher; while I was exposing myself to the insidious approaches of cunning; and often by being, even with my narrow finances, charitable to excess, I forgot the rules of justice, and placed myself in the very situation of the wretch who thanked me for my bounty. When I am in the remotest part of the world, tell him this, and perhaps he may improve from my example. But I find myself again falling into my gloomy habits of thinking.' Vol. i. p. 56.

In this letter he confesses himself *guilty* of writing the life of Voltaire. Yet he owns it a catchpenny, and the editor takes advantage of the confession. It is consequently omitted. He ought to have remembered Johnson's epitaph, '*nullum, quod tetigerit, non ornavit.*' We should have been much gratified at seeing this very hackneyed subject hackneyed *ad fastidium usque*, in *his* hands.

About this period he is said to have been a writer in the Monthly Review; but the connexion was slight and transitory. If we recollect rightly, the veteran editor of the Review has denied this circumstance, alleging that this office required at least *some* share of discretion. The question however is of little importance: Reviewers are '*magni nominis umbræ*' without 'a local habitation and a name.'

At this period he sold his Vicar of Wakefield, which was not published till two years afterwards, and corrected several works for Mr. Newberry. He about this time also wrote his Letters on English History, under the disguise of a nobleman to his son. His fugitive pieces were of this era, and were the daily labours for his daily bread.

About this period also the Traveller appeared; and some time afterwards the Deserted Village; which contributed to establish his reputation: but before and after their publication his desire of wandering was ardent. The object was to visit the written mountains, without the slightest knowledge of the Runic or Arabic; to import the arts of Asia into Europe, without the smallest knowledge of what they possessed or we wanted. In short, it was a wandering inclination, and the motives, sufficiently important in appearance, were strong enough to satisfy his mind.

We are now arrived at the period when Dr. Goldsmith emerged from obscurity; and his plays, with the concomitant



circumstances, the History of the Literary Club, &c. are sufficiently known. We think it highly to his credit, that, when the duke of Northumberland was appointed lord-lieutenant of Ireland, and asked Goldsmith if he could serve him, our author asked nothing for himself, but recommended his *brother* to his grace's attention.

His Roman History, compiled from Livy, and his History of England, are well known, but not highly esteemed. The abridgement of the Grecian History, under his name, is not supposed to be his work.

‘ Besides his regular histories, of which Dr. Johnson thought very favourably, Goldsmith had all the other business of an author by profession: he wrote introductions and prefaces to the books and compilations of other writers; many of which have never come to our notice, but such as have occurred will be inserted in this collection. They all exhibit ingenious proofs of his talents as a composer, and generally give a better display of the subjects than could have been done by their own authors. But herein he is rather to be considered as an advocate pleading the cause of another, than delivering his own sentiments, for he often recommends the peculiarities, if not the defects of a work; which, if his pen were engaged on the other side, he would with equal ability and eloquence detect. The reader will find something like this in an address to the public, which was to usher in proposals (dated March 1, 1764) for “A New History of the World from the Creation to the present Time. By William Guthrie, Esq. in 12 Volumes, 8vo. to be printed for Newbery, &c.” This was to be an abridgement of all the volumes of the ancient and modern universal histories: and he urges a great variety of topics in praise of such contracting and condensing histories as the present subject required; which with equal ingenuity he could have opposed and confuted. But the whole is excellent as a composition. In the preceding year he drew up a preface or introduction to Dr. Brooks’s “System of Natural History,” 1763, in 6 vols. 12mo. a very dull and uninteresting work; but in this preface he gave such an admirable display of the subject, which he rendered so extremely interesting and captivating, that both himself and the booksellers were induced by it to engage him in his larger work of the “History of the Earth and Animated Nature.” This, although finely written, is full of mistakes and defects, from which this preliminary essay or prospectus of the subject is entirely free: of this work Dr. Johnson said, “He is now writing a Natural History, and will make it as entertaining as a Persian tale.” Vol. i. p. 82.

It remains to give some account of the contents of these volumes; and we shall intersperse it with a few remarks on each subject, adding some reflexions on the whole.

The first work is the ‘Vicar of Wakefield,’ a novel, whose absurdities and inconsistencies are sufficiently glaring; but the tale is told with such a natural simplicity, some parts are so highly pathetic, and others so truly interesting, that cold must

be the critic who can enumerate the errors. It is not the least of its merits that the whole inculcates, in the strongest manner, the trust in an all-wise, a superintending, Providence. In the most distressed situations, the good vicar resigns himself, with a pious humility, to the dispensations of his God, and enjoys, undisturbed, the sweets of tranquil repose.

The first volume also contains 'The present State of polite Learning,' which is a pleasing rather than a recondite work: it is the bee sipping off the dew, without penetrating the flower.

In the second volume are the poems, of which the first in merit and in genius is the 'Traveller.' It is laboured with our author's most diligent care, and is really a finished poem. The 'Deserted Village' is perhaps more natural and pleasing; but his politics do not entirely suit our taste. The greater number of poems are light and trifling, but generally elegant and happy. The plays are added: they are sufficiently known, but have not attained their due proportion of praise; the 'Mistakes of the Night,' though truly comic, having been raised too high, while the 'Good natured Man' has been depressed too low.

The second volume contains the 'Letters from a Citizen of the World.' These, like all Goldsmith's prose works, are distinguished by an elegance and harmony of style, a happy selection of topics, and the singular art of saying no more than the reader expects or wishes. The author in general leaves off before the reader is satiated.

This happiness led to frequent applications for prefaces; and he succeeded accordingly. The most successful attempt of this kind was the Preface to Brooks's Natural History, contained in the fourth volume of this collection, which led the booksellers, his *patrons*, to employ him in a greater work, 'The History of Animated Nature.' The spirited and ingenious preface to the Natural History led the readers to perceive a striking contrast in the work itself. Of the History of Animated Nature, we need not now speak, as it forms no part of the present collection. We may however remark, that we have never met with more ingenuity of language or manner, with so little novelty of remark, accuracy of distinction, or judgement of selection. The work is now wholly neglected, and perhaps forgotten by the greater number of our readers. We have heard it insinuated that the introduction to Brooks's work, as well as the preface, was probably the composition of Dr. Goldsmith. The fourth volume contains also the lives of Parnel and Bolingbroke, eight papers of the Bee, and the author's Essays.

On the whole, Goldsmith is conspicuous for a *curiosa felicitas* of expression, which has carried him through every attempt. He pushes on with little reflexion and little anxiety: his readers are pleased, and they *think* that they are instructed. Yet his ta-



lents are of no inferior order: with a little more cultivation, they would have been of the first class. At present, his example is not a happy one: it encourages mediocrity; for, when fame may be attained by pleasing qualities, the candidate for fame will often aim at no more.

ART. VIII.—*Sermons by the Rev. Thomas Gisborne, M. A.*  
*Vol. II. 8vo. 3s. Boards. Cadell and Davies. 1802.*

THE worthy author of these sermons, zealous in his vocation, continues to give proof to the world of the sincerity with which he cultivates sacred truths. A vein of true piety pervades the whole of these discourses; and, though confessedly a man of great learning, he laudably condescends, in his style and language, to common apprehensions. In him, the world beholds a singular and honourable instance of a person possessed of large fortune, as well as splendid talents, devoting himself to the service of religion, and who, unambitious of the higher posts, contents himself with the lowest rank in the church. At an earlier period, he distinguished himself by his academical pursuits in the university, having been sixth in the list of honours at the annual examination, and having obtained the first medal for classical literature. His rental, at this time, was not less than between four and five thousand pounds a-year; and it was naturally presumed, that a seat in parliament, which was ready for him, would excite his ambition to be distinguished in that assembly, for which, by his talents and situation in life, he was so eminently prepared. Study and retirement, however, held out to him more pleasing objects; and, in accepting a small benefice, he was not overwhelmed by the duties of office, and could employ his mind in his favourite pursuits. To this choice we are indebted for some valuable works on morals; and we may contemplate, in these sermons, the useful character of a parish priest.

The discourses are strictly scriptural—a commendation which we cannot frequently bestow on similar productions, in which the writers too often aim at the elegance of a moral essay, rather than the soundness of Christian admonition. But, though the Scriptures be not in these pages, in our opinion, by any means too often quoted, we did not expect that a writer of such talents would have adhered so rigidly to the common version, of which alone he seems to make use, and to derive no advantage from the power he enjoys of consulting, with such facility, the original records of our faith. It was formerly the custom for preachers, in giving out the text, to correct the version, where it seemed, in their apprehension, to stand in

need of it: the practice was laudable. A scholar ought not to introduce into a discourse a single passage which he has not consulted in the original; and, where the translation is erroneous, he is bound to give it that better construction which the greater diligence and application of later times have proposed. This we thoroughly expected from our author; and, in this only, we confess that we felt ourselves disappointed.

One part of this volume throws great light on the doctrine of justification—the subject of so many discordant opinions—and aims at drawing a just line between that conduct which is deemed enthusiastic on the one hand, and scarcely amounting, on the other, to evangelic purity. The practical part is founded always on the doctrine of Scripture; and, from this uncorrupted source, corrects those errors and vices which are too prevalent in Christian society. The point of honour is a term not unfrequently made use of in polite company, as if the honour of the world were at all compatible with the real worth and soundness of Christian character.

‘What is the principle of conduct to which in the transactions of polished life the appeal is usually made? Attend a court of justice. Is an arbitrator recommended? It is because he is a man of *honour*. Is a plaintiff or a defendant noticed with complacency? It is because his proceedings have been *honourable*. Go to the senate. By what criterion are applause and censure apportioned there? By the rule of *honour*. Visit the circle of private society. The character of an individual is the theme of discussion. Animated eyes and eager voices speak his praise. Why? Because he is a *man of perfect honour*. Another person is named. Disapprobation contracts every brow, and sharpens every tongue. For what reason? “In such a transaction the behaviour of that man was *dishonourable*: yes, in another *his honour was impeached*.” Of the preceding picture I mean not indiscriminately to affirm that there are not exceptions to the likeness. But let any person, who has assigned even a slight measure of attention to the subject, pronounce whether, in each of the cases described, the representation be not accurately conformable to the general features of the original. Has the pulpit escaped the contagion? Comparatively it has preserved itself pure. Would to Heaven that in some of its compositions the public eye had not discerned traces and mixtures, which preclude me from ascribing to it unsullied purity! “The lips of the priest should keep knowledge; and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts.” Never may the pastor feed his flock with an intermixture of poisonous herbage! Never may he lead them to drink of streams, which flow from an unhallowed fountain!

‘Whence is this jargon? Has it founded its dominion on the application by St. Paul of the term *honourable* to marriage; on the testimony of approbation borne by the same apostle to *things of good report*; and on those passages of the Scriptures in which holiness is described as entitled to respect and praise? Very different are the foundations of its sway. It reigns, because multitudes “love the



praise of men more than the praise of God." It reigns, because "they receive honour one of another: and seek not that honour which cometh from God only."

What is this idol, which men worship in the place of the living God? What is this principle, which they enthrone in degradation of his sovereign word? Honour implies the favourable estimation entertained of an individual by others of his own line and place in society. The votary of honour may delude himself with the idea that, whatever be the ordinary expressions of his lips, his heart is dedicated to religion. But his heart is fixed on his idol, human applause. In the place of the love and the fear of God he substitutes the love of praise and the fear of shame. In the place of conscience he substitutes pride. For the dread of guilt he substitutes the apprehension of disgrace.

"My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. That which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God." Woe unto you, who thus put darkness for light, and proportionally thrust aside into darkness the light of the world, the oracles of the Most High. "Ye are they (like the Pharisees of old) who justify yourselves before men." Ye are they, who "teach for doctrines the commandments of men." Ye are they, who "make the commandments of God of none effect by your traditions." Ye are they who uphold the duellist. Ye are they who take the sword out of the hands of the law; and commit to every man the vindication of his real or imaginary wrongs. Ye are they who prefer the discharge of a gaming debt to the payment of the just demand of the famished tradesman. Ye are they who establish a principle of morality, baseless because not founded upon religion; scanty in its comprehension, because tolerant of many crimes and indifferent to numerous virtues; and however highly esteemed among men, abominable in the sight of God, because exalted in neglect or in contempt of his word, regardless of his service and his glory.' p. 380.

False pretensions to candor and liberality of opinion are justly censured in another passage, which deserves the attention of real Christians.

The higher ranks of life may be those, in which this offence appears the most glaring: but it pervades, and perhaps equally over-spreads, every class in society. From the mouth of these apologisers no sin receives its appropriate denomination. Some lighter phrase is ever on the lips to obscure or to cloke its enormity, perhaps to transform it into a virtue. Is profaneness noticed? It is an idle habit by which nothing is intended. Is extravagance named? It is a generous disregard of money. Is luxury mentioned? It is a hospitable desire to see our friends happy. What is worldly-mindedness? It is prudence. What is pride? It is proper spirit, a due attention to our own dignity. What is ambition? A laudable desire of distinction and pre-eminence; a just sense of our own excellence and desert. What is devotedness to fashion? It is a due regard to the customs of the polite world. What is over-reaching? It is understanding our business. What is servility? It is skill in making our way to advancement. What are intemperance and sins of impurity? They are

indecorums, irregularities, human frailties, customary indiscretions, the natural and venial consequences of cheerfulness, company, and temptation; the unguarded ebullitions of youth, which in a little time will satiate and cure themselves. Now all this is *candour*: all this is *charity*. If a reference be made to religion, these men immediately enlarge on the *mercy* of God. If constrained to speak of his threatenings, they advert to them distantly, briefly, with affected tenderness, as to a sort of law in dead letter held forth to terrify guilt and to confine it within reasonable bounds; but a law which they intimate that the justice of the Deity will never permit him to enforce. To paint sin in its genuine colours: to denounce the wrath of God against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men: to proclaim from the word of inspiration that obstinate perseverance against light and knowledge in any one unholy disposition or practice will exclude from the kingdom of Heaven: to unfold the terrors of hell, of everlasting damnation, of the lake of inextinguishable fire, of the abodes of those whose smoke ascendeth for ever and ever: this is pharisaical punctiliousness, intolerable rigour, illiberal superstition, the frenzy of bigotry, the bitterness of misanthropy. The sons of *candour* and *charity* turn away with contempt. Nay, they profess to be roused with honest indignation against persons who thus misrepresent the counsels of a God, who would have all men to be saved: and stand forth in defence of his attributes injured and degraded by merciless preachers, who assume to themselves the character of his ambassadors, while they bar the gates of Heaven against the workmanship of his hands.' P. 377.

Among persons of a certain stamp, our author himself may be ranked among enthusiasts: but we wish such persons to study his own description of enthusiasm, which—

—'entails (he says) a woe on the person whom it infects. It darkens his understanding: it enslaves him more and more to the dreams of a heated fancy: it teaches him to judge whether he is in a state of salvation rather by internal impulses and reveries than by a comparison of his own dispositions and conduct with the characteristic marks, by which the Scriptures discriminate the true Christian: and thus contributes in various ways to ensnare him into errors dangerous to his soul, and to encrease the difficulties in the way of his return to the form of sound doctrine, the words of truth and soberness. But its pernicious effects on others, the mischiefs scattered far and wide by this evil when called good, are incalculable. Enthusiasm disparages genuine piety, and causes it to be despised as lukewarm formality. It degrades many doctrines for the immoderate exaltation of one. It disgusts the sober and discourages the timid Christian. It exposes Christianity to the scoffs and taunts of its enemies; and furnishes a specious plea to the children of this world, who labour to represent earnestness in religion as hypocrisy, folly, or fanaticism.' P. 368.

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'It is also stated, and occasionally in the shape of an apology, that enthusiasm originates from ignorance, unaccompanied by evil



design. The general statement may be grounded in truth. But let every man who urges it in the first place weigh the language of St. Paul, when that apostle describes himself as the chief of sinners : and observe, secondly, that he attributes his sin to ignorance. I draw no parallel, no comparison, between enthusiasm and persecution. But I would fervently exhort you to deduce from the expressions of St. Paul the legitimate and universally applicable conclusion : that ignorance, when you are surrounded with means and opportunities of knowledge, is wilful ; that wilful ignorance is a sin ; and that there is no offence for which wilful ignorance can be pleaded in justification.' P. 369.

The excellent precept in Scripture, that sanctifies the actions of common life, and makes the time employed in labour and study honourable, is well exemplified by our author. 'Whatever you do, do all to the glory of God, that God may in all things be glorified through Jesus Christ.'

'Thus if you are engaged in a mercantile transaction ; reflect that God sees your proceedings, and the train of thought which passes in your heart. He sees whether you demand an unreasonable profit. He sees whether you are desirous of imposing on the other party. He sees whether you take pains to conduct yourself towards the person with whom you are dealing, not only with fairness and moderation, but also with kindness. All these things he sees, and marks them down against the day of judgement. If you have covenanted to execute a piece of work for an employer ; consider that the eye of God is fixed upon you. He observes whether you perform your undertaking, whatever it be, carefully and effectually, as you would act under similar circumstances for yourself. He observes whether you honestly consign to your employer's service all the time for which he pays you : or whether you defraud him, when you presume that you shall escape discovery, by wasting part of it in idleness, or by expending it on business of your own. These things he observes ; and marks them down against the great day. If you are cultivating your farm ; if you are selling your articles in the market or in a shop ; if you are serving a master in your daily labour ; if you are managing the concerns of your friend or of your country : remember that God is contemplating all your motives, all your thoughts, all your words, all your actions ; and that for all your motives and thoughts and words and actions you will have to render an account at the judgement-seat of Christ, when the books shall be opened and the dead shall be judged out of those things which are written in the books, according to their works.' P. 271.

In a sermon on divine grace, after introducing various instances of its power from the holy Scriptures, the objection from the supposed superiority of power with which it was supplied in former times, is obviated in the following animated manner.

'But these, you remark, are primeval examples, exhibited in the

days of the apostles. You will derive greater comfort from instances drawn from modern times and ordinary men. Take an instance then from the annals of your own country. Look to the character and conduct of Cranmer. In the general current of his proceedings, during the reign of Henry the Eighth, you behold a struggle between a mind intent on a conscientious adherence to duty, and a disposition naturally characterised by timidity. You behold him at one time strengthening himself with succour sought from above; and steadily pursuing his Christian purposes, regardless of the resentment of a furious and ungovernable monarch: at another, the victim of inherent weakness, tamely subservient to his master's will, overawed into culpable compliances. When danger, after the accession of Mary, mustered its terrors; Cranmer sunk in the conflict. Left to himself, in the hour of temptation he fell away. He renounced his faith! Again he looked to the grace of Christ, and he found it all-sufficient. Behold him chained to the stake, as the wind disperses at intervals the volumes of fire and smoke in which he is enveloped. Behold his undaunted demeanour: his face, full of peace and joy in the Holy Ghost, as it were the face of an angel. Behold him stretching forth into the flames the hand which had signed the recantation; and surveying with a stedfast eye the flesh wasting from the sinews, bone dropping away from bone. Hear him exclaiming with exulting fervor; "This hand offended: this hand shall suffer, this unworthy hand." Contemplate this spectacle; this insensibility to pain, this sacred fortitude, this substantial repentance, this complete subjugation of nature and its besetting sin: and say whether this is not the triumph of grace, whether this is not the finger of God.'

From these extracts, our readers will form a good opinion of the general tenor of the discourses before us. In every one of them we meet with something to strike and improve the hearer. We prize them highly; yet can scarcely avoid regretting, that the valuable time of the author has not rather been occupied in some more elaborate work on the Scriptures, in which his talents might have appeared to greater advantage. It is, we know, his duty to address his congregation from the pulpit every week; and compositions of this kind must occupy many of his leisure hours; yet, knowing his competency to study the Scriptures in their originals, and his advantages in pursuing the deepest researches, we have a right to expect—and may almost add, that the world has a right also—that he will dive more profoundly into scriptural truths, and from those inexhaustible mines draw forth their still latent and unexplored treasures.



ART. IX. — *The Life of Poggio Bracciolini.* By the Rev. William Shepherd. 4to. 1l. 5s. Boards. Cadell and Davies. 1802.

THE character of *Poggio Bracciolini*, whose unremitting exertions, in the fifteenth century, recovered numerous gems of ancient learning and art from oblivion, has not yet lost its merited celebrity. Gibbon, in his 'Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire,' (chap. lxxv.) bestows a just encomium on this zealous reviver of letters, who furnished subjects for his affecting picture of Rome in ruins (chap. lxxi.).

The accurate Fabricius\*, to a list of the works of Poggio, has prefixed a concise yet comprehensive memoir. The biography of this indefatigable scholar has been composed but carelessly by L'Enfant, and more correctly by Recanati; while Mr. Roscoe, in his 'Life of Lorenzo de' Medici†, has also introduced a satisfactory account of his sagacity and persevering industry, during fifty years, to discover manuscripts in various parts of Europe.

With the memorials thus enumerated, the literary world might perhaps have been satisfied. The present additional monument to the fame of Bracciolini is thus, however, introduced by its author.

'The services rendered to the cause of literature by Poggio Bracciolini, have been noticed with due applause by Mr. Roscoe in his celebrated life of Lorenzo de' Medici. From the perusal of that elegant publication, I was led to imagine, that the history of Poggio must contain a rich fund of information respecting the revival of letters. A cursory examination of the Basil edition of his works, convinced me that I was not mistaken; and I felt a wish to direct the attention of the public to the merits of an author, whose productions had afforded me no small degree of pleasure. Being apprised that monsieur L'Enfant had given an account of the life and writings of Poggio, in two 12mo. volumes, entitled "*Poggiana*," I at first bounded my views to a translation of that work. Upon perusing it, however, I found it so ill arranged, and in many particulars so erroneous, that I was persuaded it would be a much more pleasant task to compose a new life of Poggio, than to correct the mistakes which deform the *Poggiana*. In this idea I was fully confirmed by the perusal of Recanati's *Osservazioni Critiche*, in which monsieur L'Enfant is convicted of no less than one hundred and twenty-nine capital errors.

'I next turned my thoughts to the translation of the life of Poggio, written by Recanati, and prefixed by him to his edition of Poggio's history of Florence. But finding this biographical memoir,

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\* *Bibliotheca Latina mediæ et infimæ Ætatis*, lib. xv. vol. v. ed. Hamb. 1736.

† Vol. i. chap. i.

though scrupulously accurate, too concise to be generally interesting, and totally destitute of those minute particularities which alone can give a clear and correct idea of individual character, I was persuaded that the labours of Recanati by no means superseded any further attempts to elucidate the history of Poggio. I therefore undertook the task of giving a detailed account of the life and writings of that eminent reviver of literature; and being convinced, from a perusal of his epistolary correspondence, that his connexions with the most accomplished scholars of his age, would impose upon his biographer the duty of giving some account of his learned contemporaries, whilst his situation in the Roman chancery in some degree implicated him in the political changes, which, in his days, distracted Italy, I carefully examined such books as were likely to illustrate the literary, civil, and ecclesiastical history of the period of which I had to treat. From these books I have selected whatever appeared to be relevant to my subject; and I have also introduced into my narrative, such extracts from the writings of Poggio as tend to illustrate, not only his own character, but also that of the times in which he lived.' p. i.

The work is comprehended in eleven chapters; the want of an index to which, exhibits a censurable carelessness. Its style and arrangement show obviously that the author has endeavoured to make Mr. Roscoe his model.

With a concise summary of the life of Poggio, we shall proceed to lay before our readers a variety of selections.

'Poggio, the son of Guccio Bracciolini, was born in the year 1380, at Terranuova, a small town situated in the territory of the republic of Florence, not far from Arezzo.' p. i.

He studied the Latin language at Florence under John of Ravenna, and cultivated Grecian literature, assisted by the illustrious Manuel Chrysolaras. In the year 1401, he was introduced, at Rome, into the service of Boniface IX., and promoted to the office of writer of the Apostolic Letters.

At the time of his admission into the pontifical chancery, Italy was convulsed by faction. The schism of the west, which commenced two years before the birth of Poggio, and in its progress implicated six of his patrons, was terminated by the council of Constance, which he attended as secretary to John.

On the death of Boniface in 1404, Poggio was continued in office by Innocent VII., on whom he prevailed upon to elevate the learned Leonardo Aretino, his friend, to the dignity of scribe.

During the distractions of the Roman court, after the death of Innocent, he enjoyed a literary repose at Florence, where he was countenanced by that distinguished patron of literature, Niccolo Niccoli. He still retained his situation, and acted as apostolic scribe both to Alexander V. and his successor.



His friend, Leonardo Aretino, was elected to the chancellorship of Florence; and about this time married a young lady of Arezzo.

‘ This event was of course very interesting to the colleagues and friends of the bridegroom, and Poggio wrote to him on the occasion, informing him of the witticisms to which his present predicament had given rise, and inquiring what opinion his short experience had led him to form of the comforts of the conjugal state. Leonardo replied to Poggio’s letter without delay. By the tenor of his answer, he seems to have found nothing unpleasant in matrimony, except its costliness. “ It is incredible,” says he, “ with what expense these new fashions are attended. In making provision for my wedding entertainment, I emptied the market, and exhausted the shops of the perfumers, oilmen, and poulterers. This however is comparatively a trivial matter; but of the intolerable expense of female dress and ornaments, there is no end. In short,” says he, “ I have in one night consummated my marriage, and consumed my patrimony.” P. 46.

Many interesting occurrences are narrated in the second chapter. Poggio, appointed secretary to John XXII., proceeds with him to Constance in 1414; where the celebrated Council commenced which deposed the pontiff; and, notwithstanding the sanctimony of their protections, condemned and executed John Huss and Jerome of Prague for heresy.

After the dispersion of the papal household, Poggio remained at Constance, studying, with little success, the Hebrew language.

In a letter to Leonardo Aretino, Poggio relates, with impressive effect, the conduct of Jerome of Prague, the eloquent and spirited oration which he delivered at his trial in 1416, and the heroism he displayed at his execution.

The council which condemned him was formally dismissed by Martin V. in 1418.

Some of the obligations which literature owes to the researches of the accomplished and indefatigable Poggio, we enumerate from the third chapter.

‘ The vacancy of the pontifical throne, still affording to the officers of the Roman chancery a considerable degree of leisure, Poggio about this time undertook an expedition of no small importance to the interests of literature. Having received information that many ancient manuscripts of classic authors were scattered in various monasteries, and other repositories in the neighbourhood of Constance, where they were suffered to perish in neglected obscurity, he determined to rescue these precious relics from the hands of the barbarians, who were so little sensible of their value. He was not deterred from this laudable design by the inclemency of the season, or by the ruinous state of the roads; but with an industry and perseverance, which cannot be too highly applauded, he made several ex-

cursions to the places which were said to contain the objects of his research. His inquiries were not fruitless. A great number of manuscripts, some of which contained portions of classic authors, which the admirers of ancient learning had hitherto sought for in vain, were the reward of his literary zeal. The scholars of Italy took a lively interest in these investigations of their learned countryman. The noble art of printing has in modern times rendered books so easily accessible to all ranks of men, that we cannot enter into the feelings of those whose libraries were scantily furnished with volumes, which were slowly multiplied by the tedious process of transcription. But the epistolary correspondence of the studios of the fifteenth century, contains frequent and striking intimations of the value which was then set upon good modern copies of the works of classic writers. It may therefore be easily presumed, that the discovery of an ancient manuscript was a common subject of exultation to all the lovers of the polite arts. In the following letter from Leonardo Aretino to Poggio, congratulating him on the success of his expedition, and particularly on his acquisition of a perfect copy of Quintilian's Treatise on Oratory, the writer speaks the sentiments of the literary characters of the age.

"I have seen the letter which you wrote to our friend Niccolo, on the subject of your last journey, and the discovery of some manuscripts. In my opinion the republic of letters has reason to rejoice, not only on account of the acquisition of the works which you have already recovered, but also on account of the hope which I see you entertain of the recovery of others. It will be your glory to restore to the present age, by your labour and diligence, the writings of excellent authors, which have hitherto escaped the researches of the learned. The accomplishment of your undertaking will confer an obligation, not on us alone, but on the successors to our studies. The memory of your services will never be obliterated. It will be recorded to distant ages, that these works, the loss of which had been for so long a period a subject of lamentation to the friends of literature, have been recovered by your industry. As Camillus on account of his having rebuilt the city of Rome, was stiled its second founder, so you may be justly denominated the second author of all those pieces which are restored to the world by your meritorious exertions. I therefore most earnestly exhort you not to relax in your endeavours to prosecute this laudable design. Let not the expense which you are likely to incur, discourage you from proceeding. I will take care to provide the necessary funds. I have the pleasure of informing you, that from this discovery of yours, we have already derived more advantage than you seem to be aware of; for by your exertions we are at length in possession of a perfect copy of Quintilian. I have inspected the titles of the books. We have now the entire treatise, of which, before this happy discovery, we had only one half, and that in a very mutilated state. Oh what a valuable acquisition! What an unexpected pleasure! Shall I then behold Quintilian whole and entire, who, even in his imperfect state, was so rich a source of delight? I entreat you, my dear Poggio, send me the manuscript as soon as possible, that I may see it before I die. As to Asconius and Flaccus, I am glad that you have re-



covered them, though neither of these authors have conferred any additional grace on Latin literature. But Quintilian is so consummate a master of rhetoric and oratory, that when, after having delivered him from his long imprisonment in the dungeons of the barbarians, you transmit him to this country, all the nations of Italy ought to assemble to bid him welcome. I cannot but wonder that you and your friends did not eagerly take him in hand, and that, employing yourselves in the transcription of inferior writers, you should have neglected Quintilian—an author, whose works I will not hesitate to affirm, are more an object of desire to the learned than any others, excepting only Cicero's dissertation *De Republicâ*. I must next admonish you not to waste your time on the works which we already possess, but to search for those which we have not, especially the works of Cicero and Varro."

Poggio was far from being unconscious of the good service which he had done to the cause of letters, by the successful assiduity of his researches after the lost writers of antiquity. On the sixteenth of December of this year, he wrote to Guarino Veronese an epistle, in which, after duly extolling the importance and agreeable nature of the intelligence which he was about to announce, he gave him a particular account of the treasure which he had lately brought to light. From this letter it appears, that in consequence of information which Poggio had received, that a considerable number of books were deposited in the monastery of St. Gall, he took a journey to that town, accompanied by some of his friends. There they found a large number of manuscripts, and among the rest a complete copy of Quintilian, buried in rubbish and dust. For the books in question were not arranged in a library, but were thrown into the lowest apartment or dungeon of a tower, "which," says Poggio, "was not even a fit residence for a condemned criminal." Besides Quintilian, they found in this obscure recess, the three first, and one half of the fourth books of the *Argonautics* of Valerius Flaccus, and Asconius Pedianus's comment on eight of Cicero's *Orations*. The two latter manuscripts Poggio himself transcribed, with an intention of sending them to Leonardo Aretino, who, as appears by his letter quoted above, was so much elated by the revival of Quintilian, that he speaks of the discovery of Asconius and Flaccus as a matter of comparatively trifling moment.

Poggio zealously concurred in the wish of his friend Leonardo, to rescue from obscurity the lost works of Cicero. Nor were his endeavours to accomplish this valuable object entirely unsuccessful. In a monastery of the monks of Clugny, in the town of Langres, he found a copy of Cicero's *Oration for Cæcina*, of which he made a transcript for the use of his Italian friends. In the course of various journies, which the vicissitudes of fortune obliged him to take at different periods of his life, he had the satisfaction to discover the following orations of the same author, the loss of which had been long deplored by the learned—*De Lege Agrariâ contra Rullum liber primus*—*Ejusdem liber secundus*—*Contra Legem Agrariam ad Populum*—*In L. Pisonem*. A copy of these orations is preserved in the abbey of Santa Maria, at Florence, to which is affixed a memorandum, which records the fact of their having been discovered by Poggio.

This memorandum indeed makes mention of seven orations as having been found by him in France and Germany ; and the catalogue prefixed to the manuscript, besides the works abovementioned, enumerates the oration pro C. Rabirio Pisone—Pro C. Rabirio perduellionis reo—and pro Roscio comædo—but these orations have been torn from the volume in question. With the assistance of Bartolomeo di Montepulciano, Poggio also restored to light the poem of Silius Italicus—Lactantius's treatise de Irâ Dei et Opificio Hominis—Vegetius de Re Militari—Nonius Marcellus—Ammianus Marcellinus—Lucretius, Columella and Tertullian.

‘ Before the time of Poggio, eight only of the comedies of Plautus were known to the classical student. But by the industry or good fortune of one Nicolas of Treves, whom Poggio employed in continuing the researches in the monasteries of Germany, which he was unable to conduct in person, twelve more were brought to light. When Poggio had notice of this discovery, he was highly elated, and strenuously exhorted the cardinal Ursini to dispatch a trusty messenger to bring these valuable treasures to Rome. “ I was not only solicitous, but importunate, with his eminence,” says Poggio in a letter to Niccolo Niccoli, to send somebody for the books.” The cardinal did not however second the impatience of the Italian literati, who waited nearly two years before the manuscripts in question arrived in Rome, whither they were brought by Nicolas of Treves himself.

‘ Besides Plautus's comedies, Nicolas of Treves brought to Rome a fragment of Aulus Gellius.

‘ Poggio also found a copy of Julius Frontinus de Aquæductis, and eight books of Firmicus's treatise on the mathematics, lying neglected and forgotten in the archives of the monastery of Monte Cassino ; and at the instance of Niccolo Niccoli he prevailed upon the governors of that religious house, to allow him to convey these manuscripts to his own residence, for the purpose of decyphering and copying them. After he had transcribed Frontinus with his own hand, he returned the original manuscript to the library where it had been discovered. He also procured from Cologne the fifteenth book of Petronius Arbiter, a small fragment of which author he had before discovered in Britain. By his exertions also the entire work of Columella was brought to light, of which only fragments had been known to the earlier scholars. For the preservation of Calpurnius's Bucolic also, the republic of letters is indebted to the sagacious diligence of Poggio.

‘ In a long and elaborate letter which Poggio received from Francesco Barbaro, and which bears the date of June 7th, 1417, this learned patrician congratulates his correspondent on the glory which he had acquired by his labours in the cause of learning, and ascribes to the unremitted diligence of his investigations, the recovery of the works of the following authors, in addition to others which have been already enumerated ; Manilius, Lucius Septimius, Caper, Eutychius, and Probus. From this letter of Barbaro, it appears, that the republic of letters had expected that Poggio would have been materially assisted in his inquiries after the relics of ancient literature, by Bartolomeo di Montepulciano, but that in consequence of



the ill state of his associate's health, he was under the necessity of taking upon himself almost the entire conduct and trouble of the research.

'The expense occasioned by these literary excursions was a heavy incumbrance upon Poggio, whose property could by no means bear any extraordinary diminution: and the fatigue and inconvenience which he experienced in the course of his travels in quest of manuscripts, induced him at one time to declare to Niccolo Niccoli that he could not possibly spend more time in this pursuit. This declaration was however nothing more than the result of a temporary dejection of spirits. During the remainder of his life he eagerly took advantage of every opportunity of recovering the lost writers of antiquity. In several of his letters, the zeal with which he endeavoured to procure good copies of the Latin classics, is strikingly conspicuous.' P. 98.

Under Martin V., Poggio held no office, but traveled in the pontifical suite.

Invited by Beaufort, bishop of Winchester—the cardinal Beaufort of our Shakspeare—he quitted the Roman court at Mantua in 1418, and repaired to England, where he arrived, 'at one of the darkest periods which occur in the whole British annals.' He contemplated with vexation the gloomy contrast between Britain and his native Italy.

From Beaufort, Poggio could obtain only a benefice, the annual income of which did not produce 120 florins. Averse to a clerical life, anxious for his return to Italy, and tempted by numerous proposals, he at length accepted the office of secretary to Martin V.; and, leaving England, once more fixed his residence at Rome. The events of his inauspicious visit to England rarely occur in his works. The following passages are curious.

'A trait of the manners of the English in the fifteenth century, occurs in his dialogue on nobility, in which he thus notices the English aristocracy—"The nobles of England deem it disgraceful to reside in cities, and prefer living in retirement in the country. They estimate the degree of a man's nobility by the extent of his estates. Their time is occupied in agricultural pursuits, and they trade in wool and sheep, not thinking it at all derogatory to their dignity, to be engaged in the sale of the produce of their lands. I have known a wealthy merchant, who had closed his mercantile concerns, vested his money in land, and retired into the country, become the founder of a noble race; and I have seen him freely admitted into the society of the most illustrious families. Many persons also of ignoble blood, have been advanced to the honors of nobility by the favour of their sovereign, which they have merited by their warlike achievements."

'In his *Historia Disceptativa Convivialis*, he relates another trait of the manners of our forefathers, which he records as an instance of their politeness. A splenetic traveler would probably have quoted it

as a proof of their love of good living. "The English," says he, "if they meet with any one at whose table they have dined; even though the rencounter should take place ten days after the feast, thank him for his good entertainment; and they never omit this ceremony, lest they should be thought insensible of his kindness."

'From the following story, which Poggio has chronicled in his *Facetie*, we learn, that at this early period, the English were addicted to the practice of diverting themselves at the expense of their brethren on the other side of St. George's channel, and that when he visited this country, an Irishman was already become the common hero of a tale of absurdity.

"When I was in England I heard a curious anecdote of an Irish captain of a ship. In the midst of a violent storm, when all hands had given themselves over for lost, he made a vow, that if his ship should be saved from the imminent danger which threatened to overwhelm her, he would make an offering at the church of the Virgin Mary of a waxen taper, as large as the main-mast. One of the crew observing that it would be impossible to discharge this vow, since all the wax in England would not be sufficient to make such a taper—Hold your tongue, said the captain, and do not trouble yourself with calculating whether I can perform my promise or not, provided we can escape the present peril." P. 140.

In the misfortunes of Eugenius IV., Poggio was himself involved. Attempting to escape after the insurrection at Rome, in 1433, the papal secretary was taken prisoner, and reduced to purchase his liberty from an obdurate soldier. He thence proceeded to Florence.

When his patron, Cosmo de' Medici, was banished, Poggio addressed to him a noble consolatory epistle; and, in his name, commenced a virulent literary contest with the learned Francisco Filelfo, an inveterate enemy to the house of Medici, as well as to Niccolo Niccoli.

We shall offer a specimen, from the translation of Mr. Shepherd, of the urbanity and delicate language employed in this controversy. Filelfo indulges his rage in verse.

' — thy weak nerves, by stale debauch unstrung,  
Thy half-formed accents tremble on thy tongue,  
Of filth enamoured, like a hideous swine,  
Daily thou wallowest in a sea of wine.  
Earth, air, and ocean, join their ample store,  
To cram thy maw, that ceaseless craves for more;  
And, worse than beast! to raise thy deaden'd gust,  
In nature's spite thou satest thy monstrous lust.  
Black list of crimes! but not enough to fill  
Poggio, thy ample register of ill.  
Like some black viper, whose pestiferous breath,  
Spreads through the ambient air the seeds of death,  
Obscure and still thou wind'st thy crooked way,  
And unsuspecting virtue falls thy prey.' P. 272.



The prosaic retaliation is alike temperate.

“ Who is there, Filelfo, that does not despise and condemn you ? Which of the guests who frequent your house have any regard for you, except those who compensate the annoyance which they receive from your conversation, by the charms of your wife. Thou stinking he-goat ! thou horned monster ! thou malevolent detractor ! thou father of lies and author of discord ! May the divine vengeance destroy thee as an enemy of the virtuous, a parricide who endeavourest to ruin the wise and good by lies and slanders, and the most false and foul imputations. If thou must be contumelious, write thy satires against the suitors of thy wife—discharge the putridity of thy stomach upon those who adorn thy forehead with horns.” P. 276.

To the pride of men of letters, the anecdote which follows will be gratifying.

‘ Whilst Poggio was thus providing for himself a place of peaceful retirement, he received from the administrators of the Tuscan government a testimony of respect, equally honourable to the givers and to the receiver. By a public act which was passed in his favour, it was declared, that whereas he had announced his determination to spend his old age in his native land, and to dedicate the remainder of his days to study ; and whereas his literary pursuits would not enable him to acquire the property which accrued to those who were engaged in commerce, he and his children should from thenceforth be exempted from the payment of all public taxes.’ P. 290.

In exploring the remains of ancient sculpture and architecture, his researches were animated by unwearied perseverance. Although our extracts have been already ample, we must be indulged on this fascinating subject, while we exceed our accustomed limits.

‘ The study of ancient sculpture had long engaged the attention of Poggio, who was not less diligent in rescuing its relics from obscurity, than in searching for the lost writers of antiquity. During his long residence in Rome, he assiduously visited the monuments of imperial magnificence, which fill the mind of the traveler with awe, as he traverses the ample squares and superb streets of the former mistress of the nations. The ruins of these stupendous edifices he examined with such minute accuracy, that he became familiarly acquainted with their construction, their use, and their history. Hence the learned men who had occasion to repair to the pontifical court, were solicitous to obtain his guidance in their visits to these wonderful specimens of industry and taste. Whenever the avarice or the curiosity of his contemporaries prompted them to search into the ruined magnificence of their ancestors, Poggio attended the investigation, anxious to recover from the superincumbent rubbish, some of those breathing forms, the offspring of Grecian art, which the refined rapacity of Roman imperators had selected from amongst the spoils of Greece, as ornaments worthy to adorn the temples and palaces of the capital of the world. Nor did he confine these re-

searches to the precincts of Rome. The neighbouring district witnessed his zeal for the restoration of the monuments of ancient sculpture. With this interesting object in view, he visited Crypta Ferrata, Tusculum, Ferentinum, Alba, Arpinum, Alatrium, and Tiburtum. Whilst he was fitting up his villa, he had the good fortune to pass through the district of Casentino, at the time when an antique bust of a female was discovered by some workmen who were employed in digging up the foundation of a house. This bust he purchased and added to his collection. His inquiries after specimens of ancient art were also extended into distant countries. Being informed that one Francesco di Pistoia was on the eve of embarking for Greece, he requested him with the utmost earnestness, to procure for him any relics of Grecian statuary which he might be able to obtain in the course of his travels. At the same time he wrote to a Rhodian, of the name of Suffretus, a celebrated collector of antique marbles, to inform him that he could not bestow upon him a greater pleasure, than by transmitting to him one or more of the pieces of sculpture which he might be able to spare out of his well furnished gallery. Suffretus, actuated by a noble spirit of liberality, immediately on Francesco's arrival in Rhodes, consigned to his care three marble busts, one of Juno, another of Minerva, and the third of Bacchus, said to be the works of Polycletus and Praxiteles, and one statue of the height of two cubits, all which he destined for Poggio. The annunciation of this intelligence was received by Poggio with the highest exultation. The names of such eminent artists as Polycletus and Praxiteles raised, indeed, in his mind a prudent degree of scepticism: but he dwelt with fond anticipation upon the pleasure which he should experience on the arrival of the busts; and he instantly assigned to each of his expected guests their proper stations in his villa. "Minerva," says he in a letter to Niccolò Niccoli, "will not, I trust, think herself improperly situated beneath my roof—I will place her in my library. I am sure Bacchus will find himself at home in my house: for if any place is his appropriate residence, that place is my native district where he is held in peculiar honour. As to Juno, she shall retaliate the infidelities of her straying husband by becoming my mistress."

The busts in question arrived in safety at the place of their destination; but Francesco alleged that the statue had been stolen out of the ship in which he returned from Greece. Poggio strongly suspected that the plunderer who had deprived him of this portion of his expected treasure, was no other than Francesco himself. In this suspicion he was confirmed by his subsequent conduct. For this faithless agent, having been afterwards commissioned by Andreolo Giustiniano, a Genoese of considerable learning, to convey to Poggio some antique busts, disposed of this valuable deposit to Cosmo de' Medicis. Poggio did not tamely bear this injury, but inveighed against the dishonesty of the Pistoian with great bitterness in a letter which he addressed to Giustiniano. From this letter it appears, that in addition to his groups of ancient statues, Poggio had adorned his villa by a collection of antique coins and gems. To these pursuits he was instigated, not merely by the desire of illustrating the classic authors, by a reference to works of ancient art, but also by an enthusiastic



admiration of the sculptured wonders, the productions of men endowed with superlative talents, who, rising from individual to general nature, combined in their imaginations and embodied with their plastic hands, those finished forms, which, as it were, fill the mind of the spectator, and raise him to the exalted idea of perfection. On this subject he thus expressed himself in a letter to Francesco di Pistoia—"I am struck with awe by the genius of the artist, when I see the powers of nature herself represented in marble. Different men are visited by different diseases. My infirmity is an admiration of the works of excellent sculptors: for I cannot but be affected with astonishment by the skill of the man who gives to inanimate substance the expression of animation." P. 291.

In moral depravity, Poggio had kept pace with his clerical contemporaries.

‘Whilst the uncertainty of his future destination had prevented him from entering into the married state, his passions had gained the mastery over his principles, and he had become the father of a spurious offspring. Reminding him of this circumstance, “you have children,” said the cardinal, “which is inconsistent with the obligations of an ecclesiastic; and by a mistress which is discreditable to the character of a layman.” To these reproaches Poggio replied in a letter replete with the keenest sarcasm. He pleaded guilty to the charge which had been exhibited against him, and candidly confessed, that he had deviated from the paths of virtue. “I might answer to your accusation,” said he, “that I have children, which is expedient for the laity; and by a mistress, in conformity to the custom of the clergy from the foundation of the world. But I will not defend my errors—you know that I have violated the laws of morality, and I acknowledge that I have done amiss.” Endeavouring however to palliate his offence—“do we not,” says he, every day, and in all countries, meet with priests, monks, abbots, bishops, and dignitaries of a still higher order, who have families of children by married women, widows, and even by virgins consecrated to the service of God?” P. 199.

At the advanced age of fifty-five, he began to reform, and in the month of December, 1435, married a Tuscan lady, Vaggia—daughter of Gherio Manente de’ Bondelmonti—who had not yet seen eighteen summers.

His tenderness of heart, on this occasion, our readers may appreciate by the incident which follows:

‘In order to prepare the way for his marriage, he was obliged to dismiss a mistress who had borne him twelve sons and two daughters. Nor was this the only, or the severest trial of his feelings. Four of his illegitimate children were living at the time of his separation from their mother. In consequence of his marriage, the inheritance which, previously to that event, he had secured to these pledges of illicit love by a bull of legitimation, was destined to others, and they were obliged to submit to all the hardships of poverty.’ P. 301.

No remorse, however, disturbed his matrimonial felicity. In 1436, he accompanied the court of Eugenius to Bologna; and, soon after his arrival, in a letter to the cardinal of St. Angelo, he expatiates on the exemplary virtues and exquisite beauties of his wife. We select a curious passage from this epistle.

“ Our friend Zucharo was accustomed to say, when he wished to commend some exquisitely dressed dish, that it was so delicately seasoned that the least alteration in its composition would spoil it. So say I of my wife. There is nothing which I wish to be added to her character, nor any thing which I wish to be taken away from it.”  
p. 308.

The death of Niccolo Niccoli, whose liberality and pecuniary assistance had encouraged all his labours, was sensibly felt by Poggio, who composed the funereal eulogy of this friend to letters.

The disgraceful contention with Filelfo is revived in the eighth chapter. Desirous to show the characters of the combatants, and of the period in which they lived, Mr. Shepherd is unnecessarily diffuse on this disgusting topic. The remaining chapters principally relate to the history of the times, to the works of Poggio—for the list of which we have referred to Fabricius—and to the circumstances under which they were composed. On these chapters, we cannot bestow a minute attention. In 1444, Poggio was deprived, by death, of his earliest friend, Leonardo Aretino. Ever alive to his own interest, after the death of Eugenius, he obtained, by artful flatteries, the generous patronage of Nicolas V.

In 1453, he succeeded Carlo Aretino in the chancellorship of the Tuscan republic.

In 1455, Nicolas V., the founder of the Vatican library, ‘ one of the brightest ornaments of the papal throne,’ ‘ terminated his career of glory.’

The labours of Poggio closed with his death, in 1459. His wife had borne him five sons—of whom Mr. Shepherd has collected biographical notices—and a daughter.

In the following extract, Mr. Shepherd gives us a summary of Bracciolini’s literary character.

‘ As a scholar, Poggio is entitled to distinguished praise. By assiduous study he made a considerable proficiency in the Greek language, and became intimately conversant with the works of the Roman classic authors. In selecting as his exemplar in Latin composition, that most elegant of all models, the style of Cicero, he manifested the discernment of true taste. His spirited endeavours to imitate this exquisite model, were far from being unsuccessful. His diction is flowing, and his periods are well balanced. But by the occasional admission of barbarous words and unauthorised phrase-



ology, he reminds his reader, that at the time when he wrote, the iron age of literature was but lately terminated. His most striking fault is diffuseness—a diffuseness which seems to arise, not so much from the copiousness of his thoughts, as from the difficulty which he experienced in clearly expressing his ideas. It must, however, be observed, that he did not, like many modern authors who are celebrated for their Latinity, slavishly confine himself to the compilation of centos from the works of the ancients. In the prosecution of his literary labours, he drew from his own stores; and those frequent allusions to the customs and transactions of his own times, which render his writings so interesting, must, at a period when the Latin language was just rescued from the grossest barbarism, have rendered their composition peculiarly difficult. When compared with the works of his immediate predecessors, the writings of Poggio are truly astonishing. Rising to a degree of elegance, to be sought for in vain in the rugged Latinity of Petrarca and Coluccio Salutati, he prepared the way for the correctness of Politiano, and of the other eminent scholars whose gratitude has reflected such splendid lustre on the character of Lorenzo de' Medici.' p. 486.

That we have been highly interested by many parts of this laborious compilation, the number and extent of our extracts will evince. For care and industry, Mr. Shepherd is certainly entitled to our applause. He is sometimes tediously diffuse on subjects of trivial importance; yet his anxiety respecting the fate of his labours may readily be dismissed. We shall only add, that his style, if occasional instances of affectation and inadvertency be pardoned, (as 'the bond of friendship was for ever sundered;' 'all over Italy;' 'took up his residence;' 'more labour than profit;' &c.) is usually elegant and correct.

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ART. X.—*A Treatise on the Law of Insurance, in four Books; I. Of marine Insurances, II. Of Bottomry and Respondentia, III. Of Insurance upon Lives, IV. Of Insurance against Fire. By Samuel Marshall, Serjeant at Law. 2 Vols. 8vo. 1l. 8s. Boards. Butterworth. 1802.*

IF the genius of warlike adventure opened avenues to knowledge, the spirit of gain has perpetuated the intercourse of distant nations, animated curiosity, administered to ever-recurring necessity, and secured unceasing opportunities to science. Traffic is the talisman which amuses ignorance or softens ferocity, while over oceans and through deserts philosophers explore the remotest regions of this diversified planet.

Every enlightened age has honored mercantile exertion. Among examples less magnificent, antiquity recalls Phœnicia, ancient sovereign of the sea, Carthage, her colony, long con-

tending with Rome for the empire of the world, and numerous nations in European and Asiatic Greece, enriched or protected by marine establishments.

Imperial Rome, consummating her glory (under the guidance of the Antonines) associated commerce with conquest, overpassed the limits of extended dominion, and satiated luxury with foreign allurements—Scythian furs, oriental silks, odours, diamonds, and ‘barbaric pearls.’

Awakened, nourished, and preserved from decay, on the propitious shores of the Mediterranean Sea, Commerce, after she had encreased the power, or adorned the pomp of fallen empires, diffused a feeble light on the gloomy ages which succeeded the decline of Rome. At length, her renovated lustre cheered the climates of the north, and, in the British isles, gradually brightened into meridian splendor.

With patriotic exultation we might pursue the progress of this change: we might trace by what various causes, by what eventful combinations, trade, developed into a principle of strength, imparted to Britain gigantic vigor—a vigor which many have imagined must rapidly decline; forgetful that our *commercial empire* is founded on principles (and these, if our limits allowed, we could develop) essentially different from the causes which have occasioned the transitory splendor and ultimate decay of other trading nations in ancient and modern times.

Too often, as in this instance, do the multiform objects submitted to our attention tempt us into paths of pleasing or elaborate research, which our severer duties constrain us to abandon.

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‘Cynthius aures  
Vellit.’

Obedient to these duties, we must divert our attention to a single yet interesting object of commercial jurisprudence.

Until that accomplished *judge*, whose eloquence and sagacity English lawyers will ever revere, had directed his cultivated talents to the investigation of maritime law and mercantile usages—until lord *Mansfield* had encouraged Mr. *Park* to prosecute his able work on ‘*Marine Insurances*’—the principles of insurance-law, applicable to the trade of England, were fluctuating and uncertain. Exerting a power, for political ends, to direct or control the exercise of trade itself, governments impose restraints and regulations on the private contracts of merchants; and, among different trading nations, the construction and efficacy of the contract of insurance often differs. Hence, systematic compilations of history, principles, and practice, as they prevail or change in various countries, will be always valuable. Amid the causes which have concurred to



support the superiority of British commerce, the facility of effecting insurances is not the least considerable.

The laws of insurance were, in England, first methodically arranged by Mr. *Park*, who collected and reduced to system the decisions of our courts, and presented an excellent treatise to the world.

The publication of serjeant Marshall, which we hasten to examine, possesses neither the advantage of original compilation, nor of enlivened style: yet, for laborious and learned research, well-established principles, precision of detail, ingenious reasoning, and perspicuous diction, it merits applause and distinction. The mode of arrangement must be approved by men of business, whether their occupation be law or trade.

The work is usefully accompanied by a preface, a list of the cases cited, an analysis of the contents, an appendix containing precedents, and a general index.

The author proposes, as his design,

— ‘To collect from every authentic source, and to ascertain, with as much precision as the subject will admit of, the genuine principles of the law of insurance; and so to arrange and methodise them, that not only lawyers, but merchants and others, might, without much difficulty, acquire a competent knowledge of them.’ Vol. i. p. iii.

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‘I perceived that the leading principles which govern contracts of insurance lie within a narrow compass; and that it is only the application of those principles to particular cases, that could form a work of general utility.’ Ibid.

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‘The subject has been divided, as nearly as it could be, according to the natural order of events, from the first idea of the contract, till the final close of the transactions upon which it is to operate, or which arise out of it.

‘The numerous cases that have been decided in the courts of Westminster, upon questions of insurance within the last 60 or 70 years, afford the best materials for a treatise on this subject. They at once supply the rules of law, and show the application of them.’ Vol. i. p. iv.

The serjeant has introduced ‘all the decided cases’ which he had ‘been able to collect, upon each branch of the subject, rejecting such only as’ he ‘deemed unworthy of notice.’ If, with us, the reader compare the cases cited in the last edition of the work of Mr. *Park* with those contained in the treatise now under our review, he will perhaps be surprised that so many should have been summarily consigned by the serjeant to oblivion.

On this subject he observes :

‘ In abridging these cases, I have observed one uniform rule. Each will be found to consist of three distinct parts ;—the facts, the decision, and the reasons assigned for it.—Where the decision of a case cannot be well understood, without showing the points insisted upon in argument, these are briefly stated.’ Vol. i. p. v.

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‘ A few of the cases have never before been in print. Some others I have cited from manuscript notes, which seemed preferable to any hitherto published.’ Ibid.

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‘ There is scarcely any contract which affords a greater number of questions of doubt and difficulty than that of marine insurance. Though the principles of the law applicable to this contract, are, in general, well defined ; yet the policy being usually of one uniform tenor, and the transactions upon which it is to operate, infinitely various and complicated, the conflicting rights of the parties are often so equally balanced, that it is impossible to decide between them, without sometimes resorting to very nice distinctions. It often happens, too, that the real justice of the case, as between the parties, must yield to the strict rules of law : And it seems to be a general subject of complaint, in most commercial countries, that, upon such occasions, courts of justice are sometimes tempted to forsake the rules of law, and to lean in favour of the suffering party. It is not to be wondered at, then, if the doctrines delivered from authority in Westminster Hall should be found, in some few instances, to be irreconcilable with the true principles of the law of insurance.’ Vol. i. p. vi.

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‘ Wherever I have found any decision, or any doctrine advanced, which militated against any acknowledged principle of law, I have, with a proper freedom, but with decency and respect, pointed them out to the notice of the reader, with such observations as I thought it my duty to make on them.’ Vol. i. p. vii.

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‘ With respect to Bottomry and Respondentia ; though these contracts are not at present much in use in this country, I have collected from the Roman law and from foreign authors, such materials as seemed necessary to enable me to form a consistent treatise on this branch of the subject.

‘ Insurance upon Lives, and Insurance against Fire, are now become very important contracts in this country. Upon each of these I have put together all the materials I could collect, and have digested them into such a form, as seemed most likely to render those parts of the book useful to such persons as may have occasion to consult them.’ Vol. i. p. vii.

From the preface we proceed to the work.—Book I. contains seventeen chapters.



The first chapter, on insurances in general, like the introduction of Mr. Park, attempts to trace the origin and progress of *marine law* and of the *law of insurance* in ancient and modern times. Among other aids, the foreign treatises on maritime commerce and insurance—principally those by *Cleirac*, *Emerigon*, *Pothier*, and *Valin*; the English writings of *Malyne*, *Molloy*, *Magins*, *Wesket*, *Millar* and *Park*, and the usages and ordinances of various countries—have furnished materials which will afford a few useful extracts.

1. Marine insurances, including the subject of bottomry and respondentia, which are a species of marine insurance :

2. Insurances upon lives ; and

3. Insurances against losses by fire.

The first of these will be the subject of the present book.

#### *Marine Insurances.*

Marine insurances are made for the protection of persons, having an interest in ships, or goods on board, from the loss or damage which may happen to them from the perils\* of the sea, during a certain voyage, or a fixed period of time.' P. 2.

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' The utility of marine insurances cannot be better expressed than in the words of the preamble to the stat. 43 Eliz. c. 12. which recites that, " By means of policies of insurance it cometh to pass, upon the loss or perishing of any ship, there followeth not the undoing of any man ; but the loss lighteth rather easily upon many, than heavily upon few ; and rather upon them that adventure not, than those that do adventure ; whereby all merchants, especially of the younger sort, are allured to venture more willingly and more freely."

' Much pains and industry have been employed in fruitless endeavours to discover the origin of marine insurances. This, like every attempt to trace the first imperfect beginnings of those inventions which have arisen by imperceptible degrees out of human necessities, has only terminated in doubt and disappointment. Some inquiry, however, upon this subject, may be expected in this place ; and yet the most careful researches scarcely enable us to ascertain about what time this contract first came into general use even in Italy, where it seems to have had its origin.' Vol. i. P. 3.

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' According to Malyne, they ' (the Lombards) ' introduced it into England somewhat earlier than into the neighbouring countries on the continent ; and, as a proof of this, he says, that even Antwerp, in its meridian glory, borrowed insurance from England, and

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\* ' In compliance with custom the word *peril* is here used in a sense in which it is not usually understood. It does not here mean *danger*, *hazard*, *jeopardy*, according to its common acceptation ; for to say that a loss was occasioned by a particular *peril*, would, according to that acceptation, be to say that the loss arose from the *danger* of such loss. In insurance the word *peril* generally signifies the *happening* of the event or misfortune of which danger was apprehended.'

that down to the time in which he wrote (1622), there was in every policy made at Antwerp, and other places in the Low Countries, a clause inserted, that it should be in all things the same as policies made in Lombard-street, in the city of London, the place where the Lombards are known to have first settled, and carried on their commerce in England; and where the merchants of London used to hold their meetings before the Royal Exchange was built.

Anderson says, that the vast commerce carried on about the middle of the 16th century, between England and the Netherlands, introduced the practice of insuring from losses by sea, by a joint contribution. But the preamble to the stat. 43 Eliz. c. 12, which was passed in 1601, distinctly states, that it had been an immemorial usage among merchants, both English and foreign, when they made any great adventure, to procure insurance to be made on their ships or goods adventured. From this it may reasonably be supposed, that insurance must have been in use in England long before the middle of the preceding century.' Vol. i. p. 10.

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'In England, where the practice of insurance has been the most extensive, fewer positive laws have been made to regulate it, than in any other country; and hence the practice of it with us has been found most conformable to the general usage of trade. Some few statutes have passed, from time to time, to restrain the abuses of insurance, but not one has yet been made, either to ascertain any old principle, or to sanction any new one. This may be accounted for, not by supposing, with a learned writer on the law of insurances, that this law was already well settled, and its principles understood in most of the neighbouring commercial countries, before the use of it became extensive in England; but because the law of merchants is considered as a branch of the common law, and therefore the custom of merchants, in any one particular, being once clearly ascertained in any of the supreme courts, acquires from thenceforth the force of law, without the sanction of any higher authority. It would therefore have been an useless labour for the legislature to enact those very usages, by positive law, which are already considered as part of the law of the land. Besides, what is or is not the custom of merchants is much better ascertained in the investigation of particular cases, in courts of justice, than it could be by parliament, with all the information and assistance it could obtain.' Vol. i. p. 20.

Among writers on this subject, the French appear distinguished.

'France has, in more modern times, produced three very valuable treatises on the subject of insurances. Valin's commentary on the ordinance of the marine is of the highest value upon every topic of marine law. On the branch which relates to insurance, his commentary is clear, acute, and instructive. Pothier, in his treatise on contracts, unites the most profound learning with the purest morals and the most comprehensive judgment. That upon insurance is neat, concise, and masterly. Emerigon, whose treatise is confined to



the subject of insurance, unites great learning with great practical knowledge. His book is, of all the foreign publications on this subject, the most useful to an English lawyer.' Vol. i. p. 22.

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' With respect to judicial decisions, none are considered as binding authorities in our superior courts, but such as have been there determined, and even these may be re-considered; and if, upon a full examination, they are found to militate against any clear and indisputable principle of law, they may, as in other cases, be overruled. As to foreign decisions, though they are of no authority in our courts, yet some few will be found cited in this work, in order to shew, upon doubtful points, how learned men in other countries have understood the principles of that law which is supposed to be in force in this. *Valet pro ratione, non pro introducto jure.*' Vol. i. p. 23.

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' During the time when lord chief justice Lee presided in the court of King's Bench, many cases came before him which were chiefly decided at *Nisi prius*, but upon such just and sound principles, that very few of them afterwards came before the court for reconsideration.

' Upon lord Mansfield's succeeding to the same high office, upon the death of sir Dudley Ryder, he soon found a considerable influx of business to the court of King's Bench, arising, in a great measure, from the celebrity of his own talents. A great increase of insurances, not only upon British commerce, but likewise upon that of other countries, produced about this time a number of causes upon this subject, to which it became necessary for him to turn his particular attention; and indeed he seems to have taken pleasure in the discussion of questions arising upon this contract, in which, more perhaps than upon any other subject, he displayed the powers of his great and comprehensive mind. From the books of the common law very little could be obtained: but upon the subject of marine law, and the particular subject of insurances, the foreign authorities were numerous, and in general satisfactory. From these, and from the information of intelligent merchants, he drew those leading principles which may be considered as the common law of the sea, and the common law of merchants, which he found prevailing throughout the commercial world, and to which almost every question of insurance was easily referable. Hence the great celebrity of his judgements upon such questions, and hence the respect they commanded in foreign countries\*.

' Many great and important questions on the law of insurance have occurred since lord Mansfield's time, the decision of which proves that neither the learning or the talents of the judges of Westminster Hall have been diminished since he retired from it.' Vol. i. p. 28.

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\* Of this there cannot be a better proof than the following:—Emerigon, though not altogether free from national prejudices, after giving an account of the decision of the court of King's Bench, in the case of *Lavabre v. Walter*, concludes with these words;—*On ne sauroit s'empêcher d'admirer cette manière de procéder,*

Literature—averse to a *continued* familiarity with law or merchandise—obliges us to satisfy our commercial and forensic readers, by a concise statement of the plan pursued. An essential object of insurance will afterwards induce us to select passages.

The arrangement differs from that of Mr. Park, but is simple and perspicuous. The chapters, subdivided into sections, elucidate, in detail, their respective titles. The prominent subjects are: ‘ 1. An introductory chapter, Of insurances in general;’ Chapter 2, treats ‘ Of the parties to the contract;’ ‘ 3. Of the subject matter of marine insurances;’ ‘ 4. Of the interest of the insured in the subject matter of the insurance;’ ‘ 5. Of the voyage;’ ‘ 6. Of the risks or perils against which marine insurances may be made;’ ‘ 7. Of the policy;’ ‘ 8. Of warranties;’ ‘ 9. Of representations;’ ‘ 10. Of concealment;’ ‘ 11. Of the ship;’ ‘ 12. Of deviation;’ ‘ 13. Of loss;’ ‘ 14. Of abandonment;’ ‘ 15. Of the adjustment of losses;’ ‘ 16. Of return of premium;’ and ‘ 17. Of the proceedings in actions on policies of insurance.’

The opening of a chapter may farther explain the mode of subdividing the principal title.

‘ CHAP. III. *Of the subject Matter of Marine Insurances.*

‘ Having shown in the foregoing chapter what persons may be parties to this contract, we now proceed to consider the subject matter of it.

‘ Insurances are most commonly made on goods and merchandize, ships, freight, and bottomry loans. But there are certain articles, which, from motives of public policy, cannot be legally insured in this country, and others which can only be insured under particular restrictions. It will be the business of the present chapter to particularise these, and to show by what laws, and under what circumstances, the insurance of them is regulated or restrained. This may be done under the following heads, viz.

- ‘ 1. Smuggled goods;
- ‘ 2. Prohibited commerce with the British colonies;
- ‘ 3. Warlike stores sent to the enemy;
- ‘ 4. Goods bought of the enemy;
- ‘ 5. The wages and effects of the captain and sailors;
- ‘ 6. Freight;
- ‘ 7. Slaves;
- ‘ 8. Profit.’ Vol. i. p. 48.

(*To be continued.*)

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quelque éloignée qu'elle soit de nos mœurs; car l'impression que fait la vertu sur nous est si forte, que nous l'aimons jusques dans nos ennemis mêmes. (Ceci étoit écrit en 1781.)—*Tanta vis probitatis est, ut eam in hoste etiam, diligamus. Cic. de amicitia, c. 9.* Les juges en Angleterre ne croient pas, que se soit assez de bien faire; ils donnent les motifs de leur décision, afin qu'on sache qu'on est soumis à l'empire de la loi, plutôt qu'à l'autorité de l'homme. *Emerig. vol. 2. p. 67.*



ART. XI.—*Poems: By Francis Wrangham, M. A. &c.* 12mo.  
4s. Boards. Mawman. 1795.

‘ WITH regard to the following collection of poems,’ says the author, ‘ I have little to premise. The greatest part of them were printed in the latter end of the year 1795, on which account that date is adopted in the title-page: but other, and (it is trusted) better employments have suspended their publication. The first, entitled “ The Restoration of the Jews,” obtained the Seaton-prize in the University of Cambridge in 1794: the next, “ The Destruction of Babylon,” was an unsuccessful candidate for it in the ensuing year.’  
P. iii.

‘ Of the smaller English compositions several, I fear, contain in themselves evidence, superseding my own confession, that they were written at an early age, and under the strong impulse of youthful feelings; feelings, which “ in life’s rosy prime” find admission into every bosom, except such as are closed against them by less venial propensities.

‘ E certo ogni mio studio in quel temp’ era,  
Pur di sfogare il doloroso core  
In qualche modo, non d’acquistar fama.’ P. vi.

Mr. Wrangham’s talents are already well known to the public by his former publications. The first poem in this little volume has been noticed on an earlier appearance of the author. The Destruction of Babylon, which follows, though offered unsuccessfully for the Seaton-prize, is of very superior merit to the generality of prize poems.

‘ And art thou then for ever set! Thy ray  
No more to rise and gild the front of day,  
Far-beaming Babylon? Those massive gates,  
Through which to battle rush’d a hundred states;  
That cloud-topt wall, along whose giddy height  
Cars strove with rival cars in fearless flight—  
What! Could not all protect thee? Ah! In vain  
Thy bulwarks frown’d defiance o’er the plain:  
Fondly in antient majesty elate  
Thou sat’st, unconscious of impending fate:  
Nor brazen gates, nor adamant wall,  
Could save a guilty people from their fall.

‘ Was it for this those wondrous turrets rose,  
Which taught thy feeble youth a scorn of foes?  
For this that earth her mineral stores resign’d;  
And the wan artist, child of sorrow, pin’d:  
Destin’d, as death crept on with mortal stealth,  
And the flush’d hectic mimick’d rosy health;  
Mid gasping crowds to ply the incessant loom,  
While morbid vapours linger’d in the gloom?

‘ Silent for seventy years, its frame unstrung,  
 On Syrian bough Judæa’s harp had hung :  
 Deaf to their despots’ voice, her tribes no more  
 Wak’d Sion’s music on a foreign shore ;  
 But oft, his tide where broad Euphrates rolls,  
 Felt the keen insult pierce their patriot souls :  
 And still, as homeward turn’d the longing eye,  
 Gush’d many a tear and issued many a sigh.  
 Yet not for ever flows the fruitless grief !  
 Cyrus and vengeance fly to their relief.’ P. 31.

These are spirited and manly lines. The poem proceeds with equal vigour.

‘ Now yield those Gods, whom prostrate realms ador’d :  
 Though Gods, unequal to a mortal sword !  
 In awless state th’ unworshipp’d idols stand,  
 And tempt with sacred gold the plunderer’s hand.

‘ Now bend those groves, whose sloping bowers among  
 The Attic warbler trill’d her changeful song :  
 Their varied green where pensile gardens spread,  
 And Median foliage lent its grateful shade :  
 There oft, of courts and courtly splendour tir’d,  
 The fragrant gale Assyria’s queen respir’d ;  
 With blameless foot through glades exotic rov’d,  
 And hail’d the scenes her happier prime had lov’d.

‘ Now stoops that tower, from whose broad top the eye  
 Of infant science pierc’d the midnight sky ;  
 First dar’d ’mid worlds before unknown to stray,  
 Scann’d the bright wonders of the milky way ;  
 And, as in endless round they whirl’d along,  
 In groups arrang’d and nam’d the lucid throng :  
 Nay, in their glittering aspects seem’d to spy  
 The hidden page of human destiny !  
 Vain all her study ! In that comet’s glare,  
 Which shook destruction from its horrid hair,  
 Of her sage train deep-vers’d in stellar law  
 Not one his country’s hapless fate foresaw ;  
 No heaven-read priest beheld the deepening gloom,  
 Or with prophetic tongue foretold her doom.

‘ Vocal no more with pleasure’s sprightly lay  
 Her fretted roofs shall Babylon display ;  
 No more her nymphs in graceful band shall join,  
 Or trace with flitting step the mazy line :  
 But here shall Fancy heave the pensive sigh,  
 And moral drops shall gather in her eye ;  
 As ’mid her day-dreams distant ages rise,  
 Glowing with nature’s many-colour’d dies :  
 Resound the rattling car, th’ innumerable feet,  
 And all the tumult of the breathing street ;



The murmur of the busy, idle throng ;  
The flow of converse, and the charm of song :—  
Starting she wakes, and weeps as naught she sees  
Save trackless marshes and entangled trees :  
As naught she hears, save where the deathful brake  
Rustling betrays the terrors of the snake ;  
Save, of the casual traveller afraid,  
Where the owl screaming seeks a dunner shade ;  
Save where, as o'er th' unsteadfast fen she roves,  
The hollow bittern shakes th' encircling groves.' P. 42.

Was this piece unsuccessful because of its conclusion?

' And thou, Augusta, hear "in this thy day;"  
For once, like thee, lost Babylon was gay :  
With thee wealth's taint has seiz'd the vital part,  
As once with her, and gangrenes at the heart.  
Profusion, Avarice, flying hand in hand,  
Scatter prolific poisons o'er the land ;  
The teeming land with noxious life grows warm,  
And reptile mischiefs on its surface swarm :—  
Like hers, or deaf or faithless to the vow  
Of honest passion are thy daughters now :  
With well-feign'd flame th' obedient maidens wed,  
If wealth or birth adorn the venal bed ;  
Then—ere a second moon, more fix'd than they,  
With changing beam the jointur'd brides survey—  
Madly they fly where appetite inspires,  
Dart the unhallow'd glance and burn with real fires.

' Thy sons like hers, a fickle fluttering train,  
Th' illustrious honours of their name profane ;  
Stake half a province on the doubtful die,  
And mark the fatal cast without a sigh :  
Their heavier hours th' intemperate bowl beguiles,  
Wakes the dull blood and lights lascivious smiles ;  
Then in the stews they court th' impure embrace,  
Drink deep disease and mar the future race.

' Far other Britons antient Gallia view'd,  
When her dead chiefs the plains of Crecy strew'd ;  
Proud of such heroes, and by such rever'd,  
In that blest age far other dames appear'd :  
Blest age, return ; thy sternness soften'd down,  
Charm with our better features and thine own !  
Come ; but resign those glories of the field,  
The gleaming falchion and the storied shield :  
Renounce the towery menace of thy brow,  
Which frown'd despair on vassal crowds below ;  
And true to order, and of all the friend,  
To varied rank unvarying law extend.  
Ah ! In the snowy robe of Peace array'd,  
Led by the Virtues of the rural shade,

Return, and let advancing Time behold  
Regenerate man, and other years of gold.

‘ Then shall no feuds our triple realm divide,  
No traitor point the dagger at its side ;  
But each with patriot toils his hours shall crown,  
And in his country's welfare find his own.’ P. 45.

We wish Mr. Wrangham would condescend to ‘ walk over the course ’ annually for this prize, as poor Smart and poor Hayes did before him. Something would then be produced acceptable to the public and creditable to the university. The distressed authors, who find it difficult to sell poetry, should console themselves by reflecting that the rich have never been able to purchase it. It may be bought ready-made, indeed, at the booksellers’; but they who want a panegyric to fit, or a poem made to pattern, have never been able to bespeak one from the days of Alexander down to Mr. Seaton.

The smaller poems are few in number. We select two as remarkably elegant.

‘ *On leaving a favourite Residence.*

‘ ———, farewell ! And with thee too adieu,  
Joys left as soon as tasted ! They are gone,  
Even like some pleasant dream by hasty dawn  
Scar'd from the lover's pillow : Fast they flew,

‘ And long will they be absent. I meanwhile  
(Sooth'd by the memory of the white-arm'd maid,  
With whom among thy moonlight scenes I stray'd)  
With melancholy minstrelsy beguile

‘ The lonely hour. But me whate'er betide,  
Whether on life's tempestuous ocean tost  
Hopeless I view the still-retiring coast,  
Or my frail bark propitious Tritons guide

‘ Through smiling seas—on her my prosperous fate,  
With its long train of changeless raptures, wait !’ P. 100.

‘ *SONG.*

‘ In times so long past (though I still am but young)  
That I scarcely their transports can trace,  
Enraptur'd I caught the soft lisp of thy tongue ;  
And totter'd—for then I but totter'd—along,  
To clasp thee in childish embrace.

‘ As we grew up together, each day I beheld,  
With feelings unkindled before,  
Thy yesterday's beauties by new ones excell'd ;  
Nor, boy as I was, from those beauties withheld  
My heart :—Could I offer thee more ?



' Even now, when the fever of youth is gone by,  
And I glow with more temperate fire,  
Delighted I dwell on thy soul-beaming eye ;  
And, heaving perhaps still too ardent a sigh,  
Survey thee with chasten'd desire.

' Oh ! come then and give me, dear Maiden, thy charms ;  
For life is alas ! on the wing :  
Our summer ere long will be fled ; in these arms  
Let me shield thee, my fair one, from winter's alarms :  
Oh ! listen to love, while 'tis spring.' P. 103.

Of his Latin verses Mr. Wrangham thus speaks.

' That there are two transgressions of *Terentianus'* canon, "*De elemento ἀρχικῶ Σ*," in the translation of the prologue to Cato (p. 89. ll. 11, 14.) I am not ignorant ; nor do I fully know, whether I may adopt in their defence the apology made by Dawes in behalf of those writings of Horace, "*quæ sermoni propiora ipse est professus*." To the charge likewise, of the "*infinitivum poeticum ier in versu elegiaco*," p. 91. l. 5. (censured, as "*non absolute prorsus Latinitatis*," by the editor of the last *Musæ Etonenses*) I plead guilty.' P. iv.

Among these is an ode to a lady, more appropriate in its thoughts than in its language. A translation, however, or rather paraphrase, is annexed by Mr. Coleridge.

ART. XII.—*A Synopsis of the British Fuci.* By Dawson Turner, A.M. &c. 2 Vols. 8vo. 8s. 6d. common ; 10s. 6d. fine. Boards. White. 1802.

IN this æra of splendid publications, particularly upon subjects of natural history, the modest unassuming appearance of these small volumes very early and forcibly struck our attention. Relying neither upon magnificence of size, splendid typography, nor elegant embellishments (though the printing and paper are highly creditable to the provincial press of North Yarmouth), it is only on their intrinsic merit which they can rest their claim to the notice and favour of the public. On this they may safely rest it, for a more thorough knowledge of the subject, or a more perspicuous method of communicating that knowledge, will very rarely be met with ; and they must consequently obtain a distinguished place on the shelves of every botanical library.

Although Mr. Turner has only entitled his work "*A SYNOPSIS OF BRITISH FUCI*," it is in reality a general history of these plants ; comprising not only full and accurate descriptions of each species, but also an account of whatever has been done by former writers to elucidate this obscure subject. Critical remarks upon their several works are added ; and though the au-

thor has, with great freedom, delivered his opinion, wherever he has thought differently from his predecessors, he has always given his reasons with so much modesty and candour, that even living authors cannot be offended at his criticisms. The principal objects of his attention are, the paper in the Linnæan Transactions, Vol. III, by Dr. Goodenough and Mr. Woodward, and the Nereis Britannica of Mr. Stackhouse, lately noticed in our Review. The *Synopsis* may be considered as a perpetual commentary on those works, though it is by no means to those only that the observations are confined. The extensive work of the German professor ESPER is particularly noticed; and almost every author, British or foreign, occasionally examined, and their merits or faults pointed out.

The introduction contains a general account of the subject; to which are added many curious observations on the physiology of the *marine alga*. The whole is so excellent, that we should be glad to insert it entire, but that it would swell this article to an extent which would be inconsistent with our other engagements. We shall therefore select an extract from the beginning, which gives an account of the design of the author, and the manner in which its execution has been conducted, referring the botanical reader to the work itself for the remainder, which he will find equally, or perhaps more, interesting than the part which we quote, but which would not so readily allow of separation.

‘ Before I enter upon the task of describing the several species of Fuci, it cannot be amiss to offer some slight remarks upon the peculiarities connected with the physiology of these curious vegetables. In doing this, I shall confine myself as far as possible to recording facts which have fallen under my own observation; and shall carefully abstain from indulging in speculative opinions, under the full conviction that we are at present too little acquainted with them to fix any thing which may stand the test of future investigation, or be likely to meet the concurrence of succeeding botanists. I must be allowed also to say a few words upon the subject of the present undertaking, which was at first intended to have been little more than a republication of Dr. Goodenough and Mr. Woodward’s excellent paper in the third volume of the Linnæan Society; but which it afterwards appeared best to write entirely anew, following indeed, in great measure, the plan laid down by those gentlemen, and in many instances availing myself of their knowledge; yet no where, I trust, at least no where designedly, without acknowledging my obligations to them on the subject. The difficulties that attend the attempt to elucidate any branch whatever of natural history are so well known, that to enlarge upon them would be idle and superfluous: but it must be evident that among the Fuci these difficulties prevail to a far greater extent than can be the case in the vegetables which we cultivate in our gardens, or may see daily in the fields; and if the writers who have treated even upon the most common



phænogamous plants have differed in their opinions, and been under the necessity of soliciting the indulgence of their readers for those errors,

—— quos aut incuria fudit,  
Aut humana parum cavit natura,

such an apology can hardly fail of being infinitely more necessary from one who attempts to describe the species of a tribe, where, to the obstacles that attend upon all the orders of the class Cryptogamia, are added many more of a peculiar nature, arising from the element they inhabit, the difficulty of approaching them, and other circumstances. Longer delay, and less interrupted leisure, might undoubtedly have produced a more perfect work; but were perfection an idea which on this subject ever once entered my mind, I have no hesitation in declaring that this book would certainly not have appeared for many years, most probably not at all. My aim is far more humble. Since the publication of the *Flora Anglica*, *Flora Scotica*, and *Botanical Arrangements*, nay even since that of the *Observations on the British Fuci*, some new species have been ascertained, and many not unimportant discoveries made: these, partly contained in Mr. Stackhouse's *Nereis Britannica*, partly scattered through other works, and partly never yet printed, it is my object here to collect into one body, and, by comprising them in a small compass, to record what is already known; and to present, I trust, no unacceptable companion to those botanists who, in their residence near the sea, wish for some assistance in the investigation of its productions. Another motive for the undertaking was, that no complete work, exclusively appropriated to the British Fuci, has been at present published. The only attempt of the kind was made by my friend Mr. Stackhouse, and even he has declined figuring or describing those species of which plates had been given by any preceding English author. On this account, also, I flatter myself I shall escape the imputation of having obtruded upon the public an altogether useless or unnecessary production. I have written it in my native tongue, because, from its nature, it has little chance of ever extending beyond the boundaries of this island; and because many of those, into whose hands it is likely to fall, may possibly on that account find it somewhat more convenient: had its subject been more general, I should undoubtedly have preferred composing it in Latin; and if, as I sincerely hope, my opportunities and leisure should allow me at some future period to undertake the bolder task of publishing an history of all the Fuci hitherto known, there will be no longer reason to complain of the language in which the present volumes now make their appearance. With regard to those points in which I have differed in opinion from the gentlemen who have preceded me, I must call upon the candour of my readers not to impute these differences to either vanity or a love of singularity. Where I have seen mistakes, I have of course either noticed, or at least avoided them; to have done otherwise, would not have been discharging my duty either to myself or the public; but I trust I have in all cases expressed myself with that diffidence which an earnest zeal for the promotion of science cannot fail to inspire; and wherever I am myself mistaken, I shall

feel certainly under obligations to any botanist who will take the trouble of convincing me of my errors. With regard to figures, I have given none; not only on account of the additional expense necessarily attendant upon engravings, but also because English Botany will in time comprise plates of every species; and, still more, because I was unwilling to do any thing which might make this work appear of more consequence than I really considered it myself. In point of references, I feel that I have been, from my situation in the country, under the necessity of omitting some, which a residence in the metropolis, and access to Sir Joseph Banks' splendid library, would have enabled me to introduce. This is particularly the case respecting the Fuci of the Flora Norvegica, many of which an opportunity of consulting Bishop Gunner's figures in the *Acta Nidrosensia* might possibly have enabled me to clear up; and I have regretted it the more, as the author of that work was unquestionably an excellent observer; and in the first volume, where he trusted chiefly to his own remarks, has thrown considerable light upon them. In the second, which was not published till some time after, he seems to have aimed only at collecting a quantity of species, and hence has greatly copied what other authors had written, more than once introducing the same plan under different appellations.' Vol. i. p. iii.

The two following short passages contain such curious facts respecting the physiology of the *algæ*, that we cannot withhold them from our readers.

'One of the most remarkable circumstances attending the physiology of the Fuci is the extreme rapidity of their growth and decay; a singular instance of which I had an opportunity of observing when, in July 1798, I visited the rocks at Cromer, and found them almost exclusively covered with *Ulva filiformis*, Hudson, of which, in the following September, not a trace remained: but this, if we consider the gelatinous substance of the plant, is not perhaps wonderful. *Ulva plumosa* and *fistulosa*, together with *F. filum*, *dasyphyllus*, and *confervoides*, had then occupied its place, some whereof being at that time new to me, I returned about two months afterwards to procure a fresh supply, when, of them all, nothing but a few broken pieces of the last remained to prove their ever having existed; and they had been succeeded by *F. vesiculosus* and *Ulva umbilicalis*. Mr. Dillwyn, during his residence at Dover, observed several instances of the same nature; and the fresh-water *Confervæ* partake of this fugitive quality; for often, where I have known ditches filled with particular species, I have returned after a short interval, and found not even a vestige of them left.' Vol. i. p. xviii.

'Another remarkable circumstance attending the Fuci, for which it is not easy to account on philosophical principles, is the great diversity of species produced by different places, even though but little removed from each other. Among phænogamous plants we know that *Malvæ*, *Urticæ*, *Lamia*, the more common grasses, &c. are predominant in almost every part of our island; but the same is far from being the case in the submersed *Algæ*; for of those which



are abundant at Yarmouth, some have never been found at Scarborough, others never at Dover; and those shores in return produce a different tribe, whereof many have not at present been discovered in Norfolk. To carry this observation a little farther, I may add that the same holds good in the Isle of Wight, Weymouth, and Cornwall; and even those individuals that are common to several parts of our island appear in distant places under such various forms, that the collecting them is almost equally interesting as if they were distinct species. Some not only flourish most on, but seem peculiar to, chalk; some to sand-stone; some to hard, siliceous rocks: a remarkable instance whereof is afforded by Sherringham, a small village on the Norfolk coast, which though not more than four miles distant from Cromer, yet from its soil being quite different, produces different Fuci. This also seems to shew that the root of these plants is not without its use as an organ of nutrition. The size and texture of some species appear to be considerably influenced by the latitude in which they grow: thus plumosus is a stiff, cartilaginous plant in Scotland, but tender and flaccid as a *Conferva* at Dover; pinnatifidus, on the other hand, is small in Norfolk, but reaches a comparatively gigantic stature in the Mediterranean: and numberless other instances of the same nature might easily be adduced. They are also affected by their situation near fresh water; and, at the mouths of great rivers, often attain to an unusual size.' Vol. i. p. xxii.

The introduction is followed by a *Synopsis specierum*, and that by the detailed accounts of the several species. In treating of these, the author first gives, as is usual, the specific character, of which the greater part are new; then the synonyms and references to figures, in both of which he has been sparing, rarely quoting any but such as he could absolutely depend upon; and where he has departed from this rule, the reference is always accompanied by a mark of doubt. The description of the plant follows, with general observations upon it; and in this part much curious matter is introduced; the particular points in which it differs from those of its congeners, with which it is in any hazard of being confounded, are carefully pointed out; every thing curious in its physiology is detailed; and critical observations on former writers are introduced. To these are finally added the places of growth, and the duration, when it can with any probability be ascertained.

It now remains for us to give specimens from this part of the work, which we shall select from such species as are now first described, or have only been published in the *Transactions of the Linnean Society*.

41.—FUCUS NORVEGICUS.

'F. fronde cartilagineâ dichotomâ; ramis linearibus integris, apice rotundatis: tuberculis hemisphæricis disco insidentibus.—

Fl. Norv. ii. p. 122. t. 3. f. 4.

'Fucus crenulatus  $\beta$ .—Linn. Trans. vi. p.

'At Dover, Mr. Dillwyn.

'Perennial?—August—September.

‘ Root a thin, expanded disk, common to numerous fronds, from three to six inches high; which rise at first with very short, cylindrical stems, hardly thicker than large thread, generally simple, but sometimes bifid; at the distance of two or three lines from the root becoming compressed, and gradually losing themselves in flat branches, about two lines wide, of the same substance throughout, smooth, altogether destitute of any appearance of either midrib or veins, repeatedly dichotomous at irregular distances with roundish angles, quite linear, and having their margins perfectly entire. The extremities are bifid, with segments between patent and divaricated; their apices blunt and rounded. The fructification consists of hemispherical tubercles, about the size of turnip-seed, plentifully scattered over either surface of the upper branches; at first of a dark colour, and apparently covered with the epidermis, through which they, in maturity, seem to exude, and adhere to the outside of the frond, in the form of small, whitish, or flesh-coloured warts, full of very minute seeds. This plant is never proliferous; its habit is much twisted in a sub-spiral manner; its substance is cartilaginous, and in the older branches inclining to coriaceous; its colour a deep, rich, brownish red, sometimes tinged with crimson; and a fine pale pink in the young shoots: if kept in fresh water it turns to a dull dirty yellow.’ Vol. ii. p. 222.

To this we shall add a new species, the trivial name of which is given in honour of a person who has been a very able as well as indefatigable assistant to the author in his researches. His great knowledge and discernment in general botany—more particularly in this branch of it—demand that his name should be rescued from that obscurity in which it has hitherto been involved.

‘ 68.—FUCUS WIGGHII.

‘ *F. fronde filiformi sub-gelatinosâ ramosissimâ; ramulis setaceis sub-simplicibus sparsis apice capsuliferis; capsulis lanceolatis mucronatis.*—Linn. Trans. vi. t. 11.

‘ Among the rejectamenta of the sea at Yarmouth.

‘ Annual—July.

‘ Root a minute, blackish callus; frond cylindrical, filiform, about the thickness of packthread, from three to six inches high, divided, immediately adjoining its base, into branches of considerable but uncertain lengths, which are again beset with others, arranged in general alternately, though by no means certainly so, and giving the frond, in some measure, a pinnated appearance. All these, the large as well as small, are clothed with minute setæ, or ramuli, scattered without order at short intervals from each other; in general about a line long, and simple; sometimes, however, once or even twice forked, and so much elongated as to appear as if they would in time become new branches. These setæ perform the office of peduncles, and support at their apices lanceolate or ovato-lanceolate pods, terminated by a sharp point, and too small to be easily visible to the naked eye, but, under the microscope, evidently full of seeds. The substance is between cartilaginous and gelatinous, extremely tender; the colour a very pale, sub-diaphanous rose-red.’ Vol. ii. p. 362.



After what has been said, no further recommendation of *the Synopsis* can be necessary; and we shall conclude with earnestly exhorting the author to pursue his researches, and to favour the botanical world with the general history of Fuci, foreign as well as British. He hints a design of this kind in the present work, and we trust that the execution will not be delayed.

## MONTHLY CATALOGUE.

### RELIGION.

ART. 13.—*A Charge delivered to the Clergy of the Diocese of Rochester, in the Year 1802; and published at their Request. By John Law, D. D. &c. 4to. 1s. 6d. Payne. 1802.*

THE worthy dignitary who delivered this charge has presided at not less than thirty visitations; and the sentiments here expressed are in general worthy of his years and his office: some few points, indeed, seem to require a little more discussion and consideration, on the part of both his auditors and readers; or the doctor's authority and influence may occasion some unnecessary and improper ebullitions of zeal.

'It is a fact too well known, that books of infidelity are still actively dispersed in this country; the design of which it is incumbent on every believer in the word of God resolutely to oppose, not only by argument—for many will not listen to the cool suggestions of reason—but by stopping the circulation of the poison in the very first instance, and by exposing those, both to public justice and to public infamy, who labour to deprive mankind of the surest source of comfort, and the best means of securing the quiet and happiness of the community.' p. 7.

Now we read of the early Christians having brought improper books of their own, and thrown them into the fire; but we do not find any recommendation given by Christ or his apostles, to employ temporal coercion against those who circulate such writings. If this conduct were strictly adopted, and the civil magistrate would allow it, there is no defining its consequences. We might be soon harassed with the introduction of an *index expurgatorius*; and under pretext of destroying infidelity, all free discussion might be gradually abolished. What book can contain more of the poison of infidelity, and in its worst form, than Mr. Gibbon's 'Decline

and Fall of the Roman Empire?' Yet the true way to prevent the baneful effects which such a work may produce, is not to suppress it, or to expose its venders to public justice and public infamy, but to demonstrate the errors of the writer, and from his own work to prove, that the very conduct of Christians which he exposes ought to be exposed, because inconsistent with Christian charity, and the truths of the Gospel they professed.

On the charge advanced by the evangelical clergy against their brethren who keep themselves more directly within the pale, the following is a just observation.

'The charges indeed of insincerity, and of abandoning doctrines which we have solemnly undertaken to preach, we naturally wish to repel; because a silent acquiescence under them may be represented as an acknowledgment of their truth. We beg therefore to assure our accusers, that we require no other latitude of interpretation in explaining the Articles of our church than what may be warranted by considering them as articles of peace, comprehensive in their nature, and in any mysterious point of doctrine to be received "in such wise as that doctrine is generally set forth to us in Holy Scripture." History informs us, that in the original compilation of this work there was a diversity of opinion on some of those points which are still agitated among the believers in the revealed will of God. And when the contender for justification by faith alone shelters himself under the article drawn up expressly on this very subject, we entreat him to extend his search to the article that immediately follows, wherein he will find that "good works are termed the natural, nay the necessary effects of a true and lively faith." P. 12.

The phrase 'articles of peace' is liable to some exception. They are articles of peace, inasmuch only as they settle differences in religious opinions, by authoritatively prescribing bounds to every opinion on which they treat; and their subscribers must necessarily be at peace with each other, because no one is justified in swerving from the plain and obvious doctrine laid down in any one of them. If, indeed, two opposite opinions be held by any parties upon the same article, there cannot be peace between those parties, because both opinions cannot be right, and one of the parties must necessarily lie under the censures of the church.

But, if we might wish that the worthy author had been a little more cautious on the one point, and explicit on the other, we cannot too much commend the general style of his admonitions to the clergy. He notices, with great propriety, the interference of the legislature to rescue them from vexatious prosecutions, as a proof of the estimation in which the order is held. He assures them, that 'the clergy have never wanted advocates while they have shown themselves patterns of good works, and in doctrines have testified uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity.'

'If we are resident ourselves in our respective cures, and diligently perform our own duty; or, in cases of allowed absence from them, secure the assistance of diligent and faithful ministers; we shall then defeat, in a great measure, the attempts to lessen our



authority. Such an effect may not always be seen in extensive towns, composed of a great variety of men of divers habits and dispositions, and who may be inclined, like the Athenians of old, to "spend their time principally in telling or hearing some new thing." But in the retirement of a country village, the impression of extraneous and unauthorised teachers will be feeble, where there is a minister "of good behaviour, apt to teach," and conciliating in his manners.' P. 14.

**ART. 14.**—*A Layman's Account of his Faith and Practice, as a Member of the Episcopal Church in Scotland: published with the Approbation of the Bishops of that Church. To which are added, some Forms of Prayer, from the most approved Manuals, for assisting the Devotion of private Christians on various Occasions. With a Letter from the Reverend Charles Daubeny to a Scotch Nobleman, on the Subject of Ecclesiastical Unity.* 12mo. 2s. 6d. Boards. Moir, Edinburgh. 1801.

A vindication of the episcopalian dissenters in Scotland, written with great temperance and moderation. The arguments are, however, many of them, of such a nature, that if, instead of a member of the church of Scotland, and the episcopalian dissenter from it, we put them into the mouths of a protestant and a papist, the protestant must be made to acknowledge himself in error, by departing from popery. The writer falls into the vulgar mistake of considering the bishop, priest, and deacon, as corresponding with the high priest, the priests, and Levites under the Mosaic law, forgetting that there could be only one high priest at the head of the Levitical church at the same time; and if such a high priest were necessary to the Christian church, the pope might put in, and not without some strong arguments in his favour, a claim to this pretended superiority: but the fact is, that the terms bishop, presbyter, and deacon, have no analogy whatsoever with the Levitical offices; for they are borrowed from the synagogue worship of the Jews—the bishop being the overseer or president of the synagogue; the presbyters the committee of elders, as his council; the deacons the officers under their appointment, for the management of their concerns, as the distribution of bread, and the like. Hence in the Christian church, we read of many bishops; and the bishops of the first century will be found to correspond entirely to this description.

**ART. 15.**—*The Amen to Social Prayer illustrated and improved. A Sermon preached in Mr. Button's Meeting-House, Dean-Street, Southwark, at the Baptist Monthly Meeting, Nov. 20, 1800. By Abraham Booth.* 8vo. 1s. Button and Son.

The text prefixed to this discourse is contained in four verses of St. Matthew's Gospel, of which the last word is Amen—a word frequently used, and with great propriety, in the church of England, but very seldom uttered in congregations similar to that of which the writer is minister. This word—Amen—however is the theme of the discourse, to the almost entire exclusion of every thing which preceded it in the text: but the preacher is not to be rigidly

condemned, since he had not the liberty, it seems, of choosing his own text, which was assigned to him by others, probably with a view of trying the strength of his abilities, as was the custom with the sophists of old, on any question that was likely to be attended with difficulty. Indeed, the whole sermon reminds us of those ancient exercises; though the preacher is content with very inferior attempts at eloquence, as may be seen by the following specimen.

‘ When persons come into a worshipping assembly after prayer is begun, they are not only rendered incapable of saying *Amen*, to the preceding petitions; but they interrupt the devotion of others. This they do, not merely by the opening of doors, passing the aisles, and entering the pews; the noise of all which is often increased by the clatter of pattens; but, sometimes, when taking their seats, by paying a kind of profane respect one to another in the same pew. I said, a kind of profane respect: nor can I give it a milder epithet. Because, to suspend, though but for a moment, an act of devotion to God, rather than omit a token of politeness, or an expression of esteem, to a fellow-worm; is incomparably more absurd and indecent, than for a condemned felon, when begging his life at the feet of his sovereign, to discontinue his interesting supplication, while he takes the opportunity of caressing a lap-dog.’ P. 33.

ART. 16.—*Methodism unmasked, or the Progress of Puritanism, from the Sixteenth to the Nineteenth Century: intended as an Explanatory Supplement to “Hints to Heads of Families.”* By the Rev. T. E. Owen, A. B. &c. 8vo. 3s. 6d. Hatchard. 1802.

If this pamphlet were likely to be read, it might in an ignorant age produce very pernicious effects. All the nonsense and trash of the abbé Barruel and professor Robison are made to bear upon the methodists and the dissenters. Even ‘the attacks recently made upon public schools,’ though known to have come from men of high rank in the church, and as far as possible from puritanical principles, are supposed to be of the same leaven. From one curious fact, the spirit of the writer may be discerned. A dissenting minister was accused of a crime, brought to the bar of the Old-Bailey, and acquitted. The next Sunday he preached before a congregation of dissenters; and the writer has the assurance to ask, ‘Can any person dare to say that this was not flying in the face of government most audaciously?’ This insinuation against government and the dissenters is most outrageous. What! will this divine dare to say that government is displeased at a subject being found innocent? Will he dare to say that government wishes for the death of its subjects? But that a dissenting minister should be tried for an offence, is a sufficient charge against his sect, though he was acquitted. The author forgets, that for the same offence a very orthodox clergyman of the church of England was tried and condemned to be hanged: yet no one is fool enough, on this account, to allege any thing against the orthodoxy or loyalty of the church of England.



ART. 17.—*Sermons by the late Reverend Thomas Hebbes, A. M. &c.* 8vo. White. 1802.

These Sermons were not intended for publication by the author, whose widow enjoyed a pension from the late princess Amelia, which ceased at her royal highnesses death. They are plain and practical discourses; and the well-disposed have, by purchasing them, a good opportunity of contributing to the benefit of the author's widow, and of showing their respect for the memory of himself; an opportunity, of which we hope the younger clergy will avail themselves.

ART. 18.—*Christian Zeal, A Sermon, preached at the Scots Church, London-Wall, May 30th, 1802, before the Correspondent Board in London, of the Society in Scotland, (incorporated by Royal Charter) for propagating Christian Knowledge in the Highlands and Islands. By Joseph Hughes, &c.* 8vo. 1s. Williams. 1802.

The objects, characteristics, recommendations, and field of exercise and zeal of the institution referred to, form the main subject of this discourse; into which is introduced a panegyric upon a minister, who, as a preacher, a tutor, and a writer, is certainly deserving of high commendation. We were for a long time wondering who this gentleman could be, when the preacher was at last kind enough to give us the name of Doddridge; and, after this long episode, entertained us with nearly a score of verses, whose introduction seemed just as ill suited to the discourse as the panegyric. We highly commend the institution, for the benefit of which this sermon was preached; and are concerned to find that the salary of the schoolmaster is upon an average under thirteen pounds. Surely, if this were made known sufficiently to the nobility, and the rich merchants of Scotland, they would speedily advance it to at least thirty pounds.

ART. 19.—*A Manual of Religious Knowledge; for the Use of Sunday Schools, and of the Poor in General.* 8vo. No Publisher's name. Ormskirk. 1801.

By way of inspiring young children with a love of devotion and prayer, the business of the Sunday-school at Ormskirk 'begins and concludes with the repetition of prayer, by scholars called up without order, and unexpectedly; the smallest hesitation being punished as an evidence of the want of regular devotion.' This method is recommended to other committees; but we cannot join in the recommendation; as punishing, for not saying a prayer, must make the child think prayer rather a task than a privilege. Beggars, we know, beat their children if they do not whine and cant as they are taught; and of course the children learn a peculiar mode of recitative. We hope, however, that the children of Ormskirk will not be taught to acquire such a recitative, nor in the same way, which may make them set little value on prayer in future life. The book labours under two defects—the one of being very ill printed, and the other, of containing too much matter for young persons. The attempt of putting a great deal into a small compass is injurious to the eyes of learners, and discourages them very

much in their progress. Large margins and a large print are best adapted for the poor, to whose lot unhappily fall bad print and small margins.

ART. 20.—*An English Harmony of the four Evangelists, generally disposed after the Manner of the Greek of William Newcome, Archbishop of Armagh; with a Map of Palestine, divided according to the twelve Tribes, Explanatory Notes, and Indexes.* 8vo. 7s. 6d. Boards. Phillips. 1802.

The uses of an harmony are well known, both to the learned and to Christians in general. The Greek of archbishop Newcome is here followed with the vulgar English version, divided in the same improper manner into verses. Whatever reason there might have been for such division of the Testament originally, we can see none for retaining it in a publication like the present, especially as all its supposed advantages would have been equally well preserved by figures on the margin, and an asterisk, or smaller mark, to denote the termination of the verse. It appears rather strange, moreover, that, when so many improvements and corrections have been made, both in translating the original, and from the collection of manuscripts, the vulgar version should have been uniformly retained, and scarcely any notice taken of the labours of so many learned bibliasts. Some very useful notes are added at the bottom of the page, to ascertain the time and place in which, and where, any transaction recorded in the text is supposed to have occurred; but the chief illustrations are reserved for the end of the volume; where many judicious extracts appear from a variety of authors. The whole of these illustrations we should, however, have preferred at the bottom of the page, along with the running notes. In its present form, nevertheless, this work may be used with great advantage; although it is obvious, from what we have already observed upon it, that there is room for great improvement; and he who will devote his time to an harmony taken from the Greek of Griesbach, correcting the vulgar translation in those instances only in which it deviates in sense from the original, and adding such notes at the bottom of the page as may illustrate the text, will perform a very beneficial service to the public.

#### EDUCATION.

ART. 21.—*El Tesoro Espanol, ó Biblioteca portatil Espanola; que Contiene Extractos Escogidos delos mas Celébres Escritores Espanoles, con Notas, para la Ilustracion y mayor Claridad delas Voces y Sententias que hubieran prodido ofecer alguna Dificultad.* Por Don A. L. Josse. 4 vols. 8vo. 1l. 8s. sewed. Dulau & Co. 1802.

This compilation is formed upon the plan of our *Elegant Extracts*. It would have been more useful, if it had contained biographical notices, and if all translations had been excluded. There is an absurdity in including passages from Rousseau, Caraccioli, and Ossian, under such a title. The selections in the prose volumes are from Luis de Granada, Fejoo, O Feliz Indepente of Almeida, (which M. Josse does not mention as a Portuguese work), Lorenzo



Gracian, an author deservedly neglected and despised, Quevedo, Cervantes, Solis, Isla, with certain academical orators that are not likely to obtain any applause out of the Academy. There is nothing from Mendoza, nothing from Montemayor, nothing from the old romances, nothing from the old *novelas*; and though the editor admits translations from the Portuguese, nothing from Vieira, not even though that wonderful man sometimes wrote in Castilian; and though *El Tesoro Espanol* might have contained Portuguese extracts, *El Tesoro Castellano* should have been the exclusive title.

In the poetical part, the Fables of Yriarti are included, admirable productions which well deserve translation. Copious extracts are also given from the Araucana, and from the Austriada, a poem, which M. Josse seems to think deserving of praise, because Cervantes praised it. Too much is given from the modern writers and from prize poems; too little from the earlier and better poets; from the Argensolas, from Francisco de Rioja, from Quevedo, &c. Not one ballad occurs in the collection—an unaccountable and unpardonable omission. We suspect that the selection has been made from a scanty library; yet such as it is, it will be found useful in this country, where Spanish books are so scarce.

ART. 22.—*The Manuscripts of Virtudes, published for the Amusement and Improvement of Young Persons: To which are subjoined, Thoughts on Education, addressed to Parents. By Eliza Andrews. 8vo. 3s. Boards. Hatchard. 1801.*

The manuscripts of *Virtudes* will, in general, be perused with much advantage by young persons; for they are warm advocates in the cause of virtue: but we wonder much at the admission of so illiberal a paper as manuscript IV. amongst them. The *Thoughts on Education* are sometimes just, sometimes not. The idea of making religion the basis of it is a most important one, and is very earnestly and properly insisted on, as well as the propriety of establishing virtuous principles by habit. The author, however, has not convinced us, that the study of music and drawing is not as useful for a female as that of the Persian, Grecian, and Roman history. The daughters of persons in the lower conditions of life have enough to learn of a different nature from either. But the designs, set to be copied by young women of greater pretensions, must be bad indeed, as well as the songs they are taught to sing, before they can be called less innocent than the murders, incests, adulteries, and numberless other impurities, with which those histories, from beginning to end, so copiously abound.

ART. 23.—*Astronomical and Geographical Lessons; being an Introduction to the Use of the Globes; with a Variety of Problems and Examples. For the Use of Schools. By James Levett. 8vo. Badcock.*

This work is written in questions and answers. The words are not well selected; they are much too difficult for learners. The second answer can afford little satisfaction. The learner is asked, why one globe is called celestial and the other terrestrial? to which the reply is, Because the celestial globe represents the heavens,

with the situation of the fixed stars; and the terrestrial globe represents the earth, with its several lands, seas, islands, &c.

ART. 24.—*Bible Stories. Memorable Acts of the ancient Patriarchs, Judges and Kings: extracted from their original Historians. For the Use of Children. By William Scolfield. 2 Vols. 18mo. 4s. Bound. Philips. 1802.*

A well managed little selection for the use of children; delivered in nearly the same words as employed by the sacred historians.

ART. 25.—*Features of the Youthful Mind; or, Tales for Juvenile Readers. By Anne Stone. 8vo. 2s. Harris. 1802.*

This volume is calculated, as the author intends it, for the amusement of children.

ART. 26.—*Philario and Clarinda. A Warning to Youth, against Scepticism, Infidelity, and Vice. By the late Rev. John Thorowgood. 8vo. 3s. Conder. 1802.*

We think this book has been rather appreciated by the esteem which the readers of the manuscript had for the author, than by any intrinsic value in the performance. It is indeed intended well in the cause of religion, truth, and constancy; but the treachery of Philario may be found more forcibly depicted in an hundred other volumes of lighter novels, published in the language of our own and every other nation in Europe.

#### POETRY.

ART. 27.—*Saint Peter's Denial of Christ: a Seatonian Prize Poem. By the Rev. William Cockburn, M. A. &c. 4to. 2s. Rivingtons. 1802.*

Mr. Cockburn, we suspect, had no competitor; or surely such lines as these could never have won the prize.

' Oh! gracious Saviour! Ill-requited Lamb!  
When from thy throne of bright præminence  
Disrob'd of deity, thou didst condescend  
To visit man, as man, how amiable,  
How sweet a pattern didst thou give this world  
Of mildest mercy, "unexampled love,  
Love no where to be found less than divine;"  
Exalted now at the right hand of God  
Thou sitt'st encircled with the dazzling blaze  
Of his unfading glory, beaming forth  
Divinity unclouded, chosen by him  
The future judge of man: whence joy to us  
And hope unspeakable; with loud acclaim  
Let then the earth its grateful voice upraise  
To join the heavenly choir, that constant sing  
Harmonious praise, to the everlasting God  
Hosannas high—Thanks be to thee, O Son!  
Who out of love to man for man became



The sacrifice—to thee, O Father! thanks  
 For all thy bounties, but over all for this  
 That from thy bosom thou didst give thy Son  
 To bear the heavy burden of our sins,  
 And still in mercy hast appointed him  
 To be our judge all merciful—to him,  
 To thee, and to the ever-blessed Spirit  
 Who gave to man the knowledge excellent  
 Of all thine excellence—To the Triad, One,  
 Incomprehensible, immortal God  
 Be glory infinite, eternal praise,  
 As was, and is, and shall be evermore.' P 18.

On referring to the clause of Mr. Seaton's will, we perceive that the rents of the Kislingbury estate were to be given to the successful composer of poem, ode, or *copy of verses*. Mr. Cockburn should have chosen the last denomination for his performance; to call it a poem, is like *Lucus a non lucendo*.

ART. 28.—*Broad Grins; by George Colman, (the Younger;) comprising, with new additional Tales in Verse, those formerly published under the Title of 'My Night-Gown and Slippers.'* 8vo. 5s. Boards. Cadell and Davies. 1802.

Mr. Colman's peculiar manner appears in his advertisement.

'My booksellers informed me, lately, that several inquiries had been made for my Night-Gown and Slippers,—but that every copy had been sold:—they had been out of print these two years.—“Then publish them again,” said I, boldly,—(I print at my own risk)—and with an air of triumph. Messrs. Cadell and Davies advised me to make additions.—“The work is, really, too short,”—said Messrs. Cadell and Davies.—“I wish, gentlemen,” returned I, “my readers were of your opinion.” “I protest, sir,” said they, (and they asserted it, both together, with great emphasis,) “you have but Three Tales.”—I told them, carelessly, it was enough for the greatest bashaw, among modern poets, and wished them a good morning. When a man, as Sterne observes, “can extricate himself with an *equivoque*, in such an unequal match,”—(and two booksellers to one poet are tremendous odds)—“he is not ill off;”—but reflecting a little, as I went home, I began to think my pun was a vile one,—and did not assist me, one jot, in my argument;—and, now I have put it upon paper, it appears viler still;—it is execrable.—So, without much further reasoning, I sat down to rhyming;—rhyming, as the reader will see, in open defiance of all reason,—except the reasons of Messrs. Cadell and Davies.' P. v.

The additional tales are two: the first taken from the *Fabliaux*, edited by Le Grand, but so narrated as to have all the merit of originality. We extract a principal incident from this story.

'Snug, in an English garden's shadiest spot,  
 A structure stands, and welcomes many a breeze;  
 Lonely, and simple as a ploughman's cot,  
 Where monarchs may unbend, who wish for ease.'

‘ There sit philosophers ; and sitting read ;  
And to some end apply the dullest pages ;  
And pity the barbarians, north of Tweed,  
Who scout these fabricks of the southern sages.

‘ Sure, for an edifice in estimation,  
Never was any less presuming seen !  
It shrinks, so modestly, from observation !  
And hides behind all sorts of evergreen ;—  
Like a coy maid, design’d for filthy man,  
Peeping, at his approach, behind her fan.

‘ Into this place, unnoticed by beholders,  
The duke of Limbs, most circumspectly, stole,  
And shot the friar off his shoulders,  
Just like a sack of round Newcastle coal :

‘ Not taking any pains,  
Nor caring, in the least,  
How he deposited the friar’s remains,  
No more than if a friar were a beast.

‘ No funeral, of which you ever heard,  
Was mark’d with ceremonies half so slight ;  
For John was left, not like the dead interr’d,  
But like the living, sitting bolt upright !

‘ Has no shrewd reader, of one sex or t’other,  
Recurring to the facts, already stated,  
Thought on a certain Roger ?—that same brother,  
Who hated John, and whom John hated ?

‘ ’Tis, now, a necessary thing to say  
That, at this juncture, Roger wasn’t well ;  
Poor Man ! he had been rubbing, all the day,  
His stomach with coarse towels ;  
And clapping trenchers, hot as hell,  
Upon his bowels ;  
Where spasms were kicking up a furious frolick,  
Afflicting him with mulligrubs, and colick.

‘ He, also, had imbibed, to sooth his pains,  
Of *pulvis rhei* very many grains ;  
And to the garden’s deepest shade was bent,  
To give, quite privily, his sorrows vent :

‘ When, there,—alive and merry to appearance—  
He ’spied his ancient foe, by the moon’s light !—  
Who sat erect, with so much perseverance,  
It look’d as if he kept his post in spite.

‘ A case it is of piteous distress  
If, carrying a secret grief about,  
We wish to bury it, in a recess,  
And find another there, who keeps us out.



' Expecting, soon, his enemy to go,  
 Roger, at first, walked to and fro,  
 With tolerably tranquil paces ;  
 But finding John determined to remain,  
 Roger, each time he pass'd, thro' spite, or pain,  
 Made, at his adversary, hideous faces.

' How misery will lower human pride !  
 And make us buckle !—  
 Roger, who, all his life, had John defied,  
 Was now obliged to speak him fair,—and truckle.

" Behold me," Roger cried, " behold me, John !  
 Intreating as a favour you'll be gone ;  
 Me ! your sworn foe, tho' fellow-lodger ;  
 Me !—who, in agony, though suing now to you,  
 Would, once, have seen you damn'd ere make a bow to you,  
 Me—Roger !"

' To this address, so fraught with the pathetick,  
 John remain'd dumb, as a Pythagorean ;  
 Seeming to hint, " Roger, you're a plebeian  
 Peripatetick."

' When such choice oratory has not hit,  
 When it is, e'en, unanswer'd by a grunt,  
 'Twould justify tame Job to curse a bit,  
 And set an angler swearing in his punt.

' Cholerick Roger could not brook it ;—  
 So seeing a huge brick-bat, up he took it ;  
 And aiming, like a marksman at a crow,  
 Plump on the breast he hit his deadly foe ;  
 Who fell, like pedants' periods, to the ground,—  
 Very inanimate, and very round.' p. 82.

This is Peter Pindar's style, with a more than common portion of his wit. We wish the faults of the same writer were not also to be found. It is strange that a man of such talents should introduce a note only for its obscenity !

ART. 29.—*Variety : a Collection of Original Poems. By a Lady.*  
 8vo. 4s. Boards. Wallis. 1802.

We can adjudge no praise to these productions. What will our readers think to see a passage of Ossian thus versified from a French version ?

' The flower when cut down in its prime, as it dies,  
 Seems to say to the Zephyrs that round its form play,  
 In vain would ye raise me, for life swiftly flies,  
 My strength and my beauty untimely decay ;  
 I droop, am forlorn ;  
 Not the smiles of the morn  
 Can my charms e'er restore, health awaken again.  
 In the noon-tide of life, in my bloom, I decline ;  
 The tears of the sky on my head shower in vain,  
 Vain the dews all their sweets in my bosom resign.

CRIT. REV. Vol. 37. January, 1803.

' The night quick approaches, the storm gathers round ;  
The breath of a pestilence hated  
Disperses the plants which in friendship surround,  
And the fairer each flower, the worse fated.

Vain for me smiles the morn,

I droop, am forlorn :

The traveller who saw me of late on the plain,

Who Heaven oft for me would implore,

With rapturous hope, to review me again,

Shall return. . . Shall return, to behold me no more.' P. 75.

#### DRAMA.

ART. 30.—*The School for Prejudice: a Comedy, in Five Acts. Performed at the Theatre-Royal, Covent-Garden. By Thomas Dibdin.*  
8vo. 2s. Longman and Rees.

Mr. Dibdin's modesty does not presume to look forward to much praise for this attempt at comedy: had he expected it, indeed, it could not have been bestowed upon him. '*The School for Prejudice* was originally produced in three acts, under the title of *Liberal Opinions*: its success induced Mr. Harris to desire the author would make the additions which have since been so favourably received by the audience, and which (while most respectfully submitted to those who deign to peruse them in the closet) are now accompanied by his grateful acknowledgements, for the eminent and friendly exertions bestowed on them by all the performers.' *Advertisement.*

#### ' ACT III.

' SCENE I.—*The Inside of John Grouse's Cottage. The Door opens towards a Wood.*

' *Enter John and Parchment.*

' *John.* What, and so he says he'll always be good to me, in spite of the old lady? Why, now, that's vary kind on him. I like him so well, that I think I cou'd go all over 'tworld to do ought for him. Well; but thou'll ha 'a drop o' drink? a sup o'yeal, oud lad, weant thee?

' *Parch.* No, no, I thank ye. I have business in hand. Besides, there seems to be a storm brewing—Fare thee well.

' *John.* I mun away to work too. I ha' gotten a foine pig to kill—I hope his worship will accept of some puddings. Bless his heart! he can eat a homely meal as well as a poorer man.

' *Parch.* And so he can, ha! ha! ha! I've seen him, after a long ride, take away the children's bread and butter, on purpose to give them something for it, ha! ha! ha!

' *John.* Ha! ha! ha! only think now, that of all trades, so good a man should have been bred a lawyer, and thee his clerk! Thou moant mind my jokes; but I've oft been puzzled to account for it—You lawyer folks are so cunning.

' *Parch.* Very cunning; and hardly one of them that isn't as keen as a Yorkshireman—You musn't mind my jokes, you know, ha! ha! ha! [Exit.



' *John.* Ha! ha! ha! Well, go thy ways—thou'rt a funny ould man, ha! ha! ha!—It gets very dark and cloudy—I think there'll be some thunner flashes come down afore long—My dame, I warrant, has gotten into some house on't road—I wonder where shew's put my great knife! t' pig will never get kill'd an' I doant find it.' P. 35.

It may afford a good-natured audience some pleasure to see a couple of honest countrymen so delighted with one another's jokes; but we fear they will hardly find wit enough in them to make them join in their laughter.

ART. 31.—*St. David's Day: or, the Honest Welchman. A Ballad Farce, in Two Acts. As performed at the Theatre-Royal, Covent-Garden. By Thomas Dibdin. 8vo. 1s. Longman and Rees.*

This, though a local *ballad*, as the title shows, will give pleasure either to the reader or spectator from its simplicity. The author's abilities are more suited to farce than comedy. In the latter of these species of drama we expect something of dignity (though, it is true, of late years, we have been frequently disappointed); whilst a little frothy humour, or a song or two extravagantly sung, will always be a gallery passport for the former.

ART. 32.—*The Sixty-Third Letter: a Musical Farce, in Two Acts. As performed at the Theatre-Royal, Hay-Market. By Walley Chamberlain Oulton. 8vo. 1s. 6d. Barker. 1802.*

It is hardly needful for us to remark on the greater part of the farces, &c. of the present day, for they bear almost universally in their front the mark of their own condemnation—we mean, a dedication to some one performer or more, and an acknowledgement that, but for *his* or *their* exertions, the piece could not have succeeded. Ridiculous as such a declaration must appear, it is, unfortunately, often too true. The drama before us has, nevertheless, some merit: but we leave our readers to determine whether the ELEGANT EXPLETIVES which we have marked with capitals in the following scene, will serve to set off most the *abilities* of the author or the actor. It is a disgrace to a Christian audience, that they suffered a second representation till the imprecations had been obliterated.

' SCENE II. *Sir Wilful's Study.*

' *Sir Wilful Positive discovered alone at Breakfast.*

' I think I have properly secur'd my ward—I have bound her down by such promises that I may bid defiance to any secret lover—Here, Dulcet!—DAMN that fellow! he's worse than Casey—for ever running after some organ, or listening to a ballad-singer—I wonder my sister-in-law could recommend me such a servant, when she knew my aversion to music; but I dare say she did it on purpose to torment me.—Dulcet! (*ringing a bell.*)

' *Enter Dulcet, singing, "A master I have," &c.*

' What is the reason I must ring for you so often?

' *Dul.* I'm sorry for it—I'm sure, sir, I never wish to hear you ring, it's such discord.—

' *Sir W. P.* And CONFOUND your concord—here take away the things.

' *Dul.* (*approaching the table, takes up the bell and begins to sing, ringing to the tune of*) "Merry are the bells and merry do they ring."

' *Sir W. P.* ZOUNDS! what do you mean? put down the bell.

' *Dul.* (*singing*) "Merry is myself and merry will I sing."

' *Sir W. P.* Do you hear? put it down, and none of your DAMN'D music!

' *Dul.* DAMN'D music!—

' *Sir W. P.* This is no time for your CURS'D notes.

' *Dul.* Lord, sir, I'll beat time if you'll let me (*hums a tune and beats time with his foot*).

' *Sir W. P.* Be quiet, fellow! Isn't it very hard I must be tormented every day with your ABOMINABLE sounds? In the morning you begin with what you call—"Good-morrow to your night-cap."

' *Dul.* "On two legs rid," &c. (*singing.*)

' *Sir W. P.* OUNS! be quiet—then at night you play on the table your DAMN'D CONFOUNDED noise of "Go to bed Tom."

' *Dul.* Oh, sir, every child can play that (*playing on the table.*)

' *Sir W. P.* OUNS! he'll break all the things—be quiet! how dare you make this noise in my ear?

' *Dul.* Your ear! lord, sir, you have no ear!—You don't know "Morgan Rattler" from "My lodging is on the cold ground."

' *Sir W. P.* If you don't hold your tongue, and take away the things, DAM-ME I'll knock you down, and then *your* lodging will be on the cold ground.—

' *Dul.* "And hard, very hard be my fate—"

[*Exit with breakfast things.*]

' *Sir W. P.* (*solus*) I must part with him immediately!—he has smash'd I don't know how many china plates with playing the cymbals—all my tumblers with imitating the musical glasses, and crack'd a most beautiful tea-board with practising the tambourine—if at the street door, he is playing with the knocker; and if I call for a knife and fork at dinner, I must wait till he has finished a tune with them.' P. 14.

### NOVELS, &c.

ART. 33.—*Astonishment!!! a Romance of a Century ago.* By Francis Lathom. 2 Vols. 12mo. 9s. Boards. Longman and Rees. 1802.

Has not Mr. Lathom almost thrown away his time in attempting this work, knowing, as he does, that 'every character in common life has been so twisted, twirled, and strained, into every possible shape and variety, that some of the principal personages in every novel are, at least, cousins, if not more nearly related to some of the most prominent characters in any other you happen to open?' We really give it as our opinion, that this observation of the author is a just one; and we think, that, from amongst the most prominent cha-



acters which every novel abounds in, it is a pity some better ones had not been selected to ingraft into the two volumes before us.

ART. 34.—*Atala. From the French of Mr. De Chateaubriant. With explanatory Notes.* 8vo. 5s. Bound. Robinsons. 1802.

This little translation has been already published, and admired for its interest and simplicity. The present edition is printed with much neatness, and ornamented with beautiful plates, by Heath.

ART. 35.—*Plantagenet: or, Secrets of the House of Anjou. A Tale of the twelfth Century.* By Anna Millikin. 2 Vols. 12mo. 7s. Boards. Connor. 1802.

In these two volumes of Mrs. Millikin, are contained the marriage of William, son to Robert duke of Normandy, with a daughter of the duke of Anjou; preceded by a secret memoir of the ill treatment of the lady's father to his rightful duchess. It will not be expected that the author has followed facts in a novel; but the work has, however, enough of the appearance of probability to make it interesting.

#### MISCELLANEOUS LIST.

ART. 36.—*The General Gazetteer; or, compendious Geographical Dictionary. Containing a Description of the Empires, Kingdoms, States, Provinces, Cities, Towns, Forts, Seas, Harbours, Rivers, Lakes, Mountains, Capes, &c. in the known World; with the Government, Customs, Manners, and Religion of the Inhabitants; the Extent, Boundaries, and natural Productions of each Country; the Trade, Manufactures, and Curiosities of the Cities and Towns; their Longitude, Latitude, Bearings and Distances in English Miles from remarkable Places; and the various Events by which they have been distinguished. Including an Account of the Counties, Cities, Boroughs, Market-Towns, and principal Villages, in Great-Britain and Ireland. Illustrated by Maps. Originally written by R. Brookes, M. D. The twelfth Edition, with considerable Additions and Improvements.* 8vo. 10s. 6d. Boards. Johnson. 1802.

This very useful publication is here again presented to the world with improvements of considerable magnitude and importance. The correctness attained in this new edition will render it a book to be depended upon for general reference.

ART. 37.—*The Picture of London, for 1803; being a correct Guide to all the Curiosities, Amusements, Exhibitions, Public Establishments, and remarkable Objects, in and near London; with a collection of appropriate Tables. For the Use of Strangers, Foreigners, and all Persons who are not intimately acquainted with the British Metropolis.* 12mo. 5s. Bound. Philips.

We do not know a book likely to be of more general utility than the volume before us. The compilers have been careful to include every circumstance worthy of remark in the metropolis and its immediate environs. We will venture to recommend it as a cheap and valuable assistant to every foreigner newly resident in London, and to every country gentleman who may occasionally spend a month in the capital.

**ART. 38.**—*A Practical Guide during a Journey from London to Paris ; with a correct Description of all the Objects deserving of Notice in the French Metropolis. Illustrated with Maps and useful Tables. The Second Edition corrected.* 12mo. 5s. Bound. Philips. 1803.

This guide is less valuable than the preceding article only, because its usefulness is less general among the inhabitants of our own nation. To such Englishmen, however, as find themselves likely to visit Paris, either on business or pleasure, it will prove an instructive companion. Five different routes are pointed out from the one metropolis to the other ; and the streets, public buildings, &c. in the French capital, are given with considerable accuracy. It will be a traveler's own fault if he do not profit, both in mind and pocket, by the information here afforded him.

**ART. 39.**—*The Hermit of the Alps. Translated from the German of an anonymous Writer, with a few Alterations. By John Richardson.* 12mo. 2s. Jones. 1802.

What part of this work has been translated, or what part of it is the produce of Mr. Richardson's pen, the reader will hardly find it worth his labour to investigate. The translator is less modest than the author ; the latter, we should think, was ashamed to put his name to it.

**ART. 40.**—*Proverbs ; or, the Manual of Wisdom : being an Alphabetical Arrangement of the best English, Spanish, French, Italian, and other Proverbs. To which are subjoined, the wise Sayings, Precepts, Maxims, and Reflexions, of the most illustrious Ancients.* 8vo. Kirby. 1803.

Though Chesterfield forbids the use of proverbs in company, yet have they been recommended by the wise of every age and nation. The collection of the present compiler is a very judicious one ; for he has rejected, as himself remarks, ' those proverbs which are merely local, quaint sayings that apply not to real life and manners, ridiculous similes, fit only for the vulgar to repeat ;' and besides, however witty, ' every thing that could taint the mind, or injure the morals.' We must express our approbation of the alphabetical arrangement ; but we think the proverbs of different nations, as far as possible, ought also to have been distinguished. If we may give our opinion freely on the subject, we must say, that the trouble attending such a research was more likely to deter the compiler from entering upon it, than a conviction that the distinction would have been indifferent to any class of readers.

**ART. 41.**—*Mottos ; or, Imagery of Life. By William Robson.* 12mo. 1s. 6d. Parsons. 1802.

Sometimes the thoughts which occur in this little volume are not unimportant in themselves : but the author has dressed them in such uncouth phraseology, that the reader will be tempted to smile at sentiments which should make him serious. Mr. Robson should study the style of more experienced writers than himself, before he come forward again as a candidate for public approbation.



**ART. 42.—*Erratics.*** By a Sailor. Vols. II. and III. 12mo. 7s. sewed. Ogilvy. 1802.

The author has infused the same spirit and humour into these volumes, as entertained the readers of his first. We smile, read further, and for a moment are dissatisfied; yet we continue to read, and grow pleased again. While we continued to think the *Erratics* to be the production of a sailor (*literally a sailor*), we could find no fault; but, having now heard, by the by, that this sailor is a classical one (a chaplain), we must express a wish that he had employed the file frequently—Haste has left many a sentence almost ungrammatically incorrect.

**ART. 43.—*A Set of Tables for showing the exact Bearing and Distance of Lights, or any other visible fixed Objects, accurately calculated from the Angle found between the Ship's Course and the Bearing of the Light, increasing progressively from one Point on either Bow to the Beam, and from the Beam to two Points on either Quarter.*** By Thomas Pyman, for more than forty Years a Captain in the Merchants' Service. 4to. 5s. Boards. Law. 1802.

These tables are made by an easy and obvious trigonometrical rule, and will save the mariner the trouble of calculating the sides of a triangle from the base (the distance run), and the angles at the base (or the bearings of the light) being given. They are calculated for a half mile and upwards to seven miles, where it is necessary, increasing by half-mile degrees. The angles are measured by points, their difference being a half, or two points.

**ART. 44.—*Tables for facilitating the Calculations of Nautical Astronomy, and particularly of the Latitude of a Ship at Sea from two Altitudes of the Sun, and that of the Longitude from the Distances of the Moon from the Sun or a Star; containing the natural versed Sines to every ten Seconds of the logarithmic Series, double Sines, versed Sines, &c. to every Minute from 0 to 180 Degrees; and several other Tables useful in Astronomy and Navigation.*** By Joseph Mendoza Rios, Esq. F. R. S. 4to. 1l. 11s. 6d. Boards. Faulder. 1802.

Very useful tables, from which every requisite may be found in calculating the latitude and longitude at sea, the tables giving the necessary corrections for parallax, refractions, dip, &c.; and, in the preface to them, a sufficient number of instances is given by which their use may be learned, and with sufficient application they will be found very useful in practice.

**ART. 45.—*Tables calculated for the Arbitration of Exchanges, both Simple and compound; with an Account of the Currencies and Monies of the principal Commercial Cities of Europe.*** Taken from the latest and best Authorities. By J. R. Teschemacher. 4to. 1l. 11s. 6d. Boards. Boosey. 1802.

This is a work of much value to the commercial world. The trouble attending exchanges is well known; and, as the author properly

observes, if a short time only be allowed for the determination of the most advisable mode of making a payment at a distant place, it must be desirous that the calculation should be rendered as easy as possible. In general such calculation is made by the addition of several ratios together; and consequently if in paying a sum at Venice it is desired to know whether the payment should be made through Amsterdam, Hamburg, and Vienna, there must be long multiplications and a compound division. This trouble is saved by adapting numbers to the course of exchange of the principal commercial towns in Europe, and the addition or subtraction of these numbers answers the same end as multiplication and division in the common mode. The work is remarkably cheap, containing 117 quarto pages, of which forty-eight are of tables, and selling at only one guinea and a half. When we compare the labour of the author with the sum that was contributed a short time since by the commercial world to an insignificant plan of merchants' accounts, we are rather surprised that he has not set a higher price upon his publication. Every 'compting-house of extensive connexions must find the advantage of possessing the tables here offered, whose use may in a very short time be acquired by all their clerks; and the advantages to be derived from various combinations of exchanges may be presented to the principal in as short a time as he can by the usual mode make a single calculation.

**ART. 46.**—*Tables of the several European Exchanges, shewing, by Inspection, the Value of any Sum of Money in all the principal Places of Europe, at the different Prices to which the Courses of Exchange may Rise or Fall. And describing in what Money, real or imaginary, Books and Accounts are usually kept, and Bills are Drawn at each Place, with the plain Method of Calculation by the Rule of Three. Tables equating the Moneys of the different Provinces of Spain with each other, and a Table of the Flemish Money. To which is prefixed an Account of the Usances, or Times at which Bills are Drawn, from the several Places, together with the Days of Grace allowed in each. By Robert Bewicke. 2 Vols. 4to. 4l. 4s. Boards. Richardson. 1802.*

In these two very thick quarto volumes are contained tables which show the value of any sum of money by means of an easy addition in the currency of any of the great commercial towns, according to the probable rates of exchange which can take place between them. Hence, the value of a bill at any one place is easily ascertained; but, in the arbitration of exchanges, these tables will be found very laborious, when compared with those of Mr. Teschemacher, whose tables are contained in a twelfth part of the size here presented, and perform the operations in about a twelfth part of the time. In houses of very extensive trade, both works, however, may be found useful.